# MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 APRIL 1982

## Sinai Handover

Egyptian Takevoer, Israeli Evacuation -- Egyptian military officials, representing President Husni Mubarak in the ceremonies marking the handover of the Sinai, raised their national flag in Rafah and Sharm ash-Shaykh on 25 April, according to a live broadcast by Cairo radio and a MENA report. Egypt also raised its flag over the Tiran and Sanafir Islands, MENA noted. Speaking at the Rafah ceremony, Maj Gen Yusuf Sabri Abu Talib said Egypt's flag will fly forever on its international border. Earlier that morning, the radio provided live coverage of the ceremony in Cairo in which Mubarak laid a wreath at the tomb of the late president, Anwar as-Sadat.

The IDF began its withdrawal from the Sinai the previous day, completing the process on 25 April, according to MENA. Egyptian administrators took over Sharm ash-Shaykh and its environs amid joyful demonstrations by Sinai villagers. MENA also reported that two of the three Sinai airports would be open to international civilian aircraft beginning on 25 April and that the other airport would open to aircraft of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO).

The IDF evacuated around 2,000 opponents of the withdrawal and demolished some 600 houses in the course of the evacuation of Yamit District, Jerusalem radio reported citing the evacuation commander. Kakh members, who had threatened suicide, were evacuated without harm. The radio also noted that before finally leaving the demolished town, members of the Movement To Stop the Withdrawal announced the establishment of a new political movement to retrieve the territories. The new party is called "Israel's Return."

Comment on Withdrawal, Peace Process -- In a message to the Egyptian and Israeli people, broadcast jointly by Cairo and Jerusalem televisions and radios, President Mubarak said the peace treaty represents an important step on the road to a comprehensive peace, which will have good effects in all parts of the Middle East. It sets an example for good relations between Israel and its neighbors on the basis of mutual respect and preservation of legitimate rights, he said. Mubarak called for further efforts to cultivate the peace process, to open new horizons for contact and communication and to strengthen the confidence of coming generations in a better future. Noting Egypt's human and financial sacrifices in its wars with Israel, Mubarak said Egyptians are determined that the October war will be the last war. They greet the Israeli people who have accepted the challenge of peace, he said, and appreciate the sincere assistance of friendly peoples, especially the Americans.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin's message, broadcast during the same program, noted that Israel has made many sacrifices for the peace treaty and stressed the need to make the peace last forever.

The 25 April Israeli Cabinet meeting was interrupted by a telephone call for Begin from Mubarak, who congratulated the Israeli leader on the evacuation of the Sinai and promised that peace will prevail forever between the two countries, Jerusalem radio reported.

In a television message to Egyptians, reported by MENA, Mubarak noted the difficult years before the return of the Sinai, during which an Egyptian could not smile or be happy while his land was occupied and his will was shackled. Speaking to journalists after a 25 April meeting of the Armed Forces Supreme Council, Mubarak stressed that the Palestinian autonomy talks will definitely continue, MENA reported. In a statement reported by Cairo radio on 24 April, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali expressed hope that the canopy of peace will be spread over all the Middle East. This can be achieved only by guaranteeing the "natural, legitimate rights" of the Palestinian people, he said. 'Ali also said in a 25 April Cairo radio interview that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry is working at full capacity to prepare for the next stage of diplomatic activity and will shortly contact the United States and Israel to agree on a date for the resumption of the autonomy talks.

While reaffirming that Egypt welcomes the restoration of relations with Arab states provided they do not seek to impose conditions upon Egypt, he indicated that the resumption of relations is impossible within the framework of the Baghdad summit resolutions.

Commenting on the restoration of Egyptian sovereignty over the Sinai, Cairo's AS-SIYASI said the evacuation generates more confidence in Israeli pledges and inspires the possibility of continuing negotiations in order to ensure an overall peace for all people in the area, according to Cairo radio's press review. AL-AHRAM said Egyptians should feel "loyalty and gratitude" to As-Sadat, doing "justice to his renown against malicious talk" and putting him in his "appropriate place of prominence."

MENA carried several statements from world leaders congratulating Egypt on the return of the Sinai, including a message from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, who stressed that the "Zionist enemy" is still directing its guns at the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. The Arabs, whose divisions give the enemy the opportunity to be "haughty," must unite, he said.

Jerusalem radio said that in a telephone conversation with Begin, President Ronald Reagan congratulated the Israeli leader on completing the decisive part of the peace treaty and promised that the United States will stand on Israel's side in the future.

Tabah Dispute -- Israel and Egypt have reached final agreement over the method to solve the Tabah border dispute, Jerusalem radio reported. Under the agreement Israel will retreat to the border as conceived by Egypt and the Egyptians will station police up to the point Israel believes to be the border. Life will proceed normally in the disputed zone while a committee discusses the problem without any time limitation. The MFO will be responsible for security in the zone.

Monitored Egyptian media have not yet reported that agreement has been reached. In a press conference reported by MENA, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ali praised the U.S. role in narrowing Egyptian-Israeli differences over Tabah.

## Israel

Sharon Statement, New Settlements -- Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said in a 25 April Order of the Day to the IDF that Israel has reached the limit of its concessions and will henceforth strengthen its security and reinforce and consolidate settlements in the Golan Heights, Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, Jerusalem radio reported. Meanwhile, the Ministerial Settlement Committee announced approval for the establishment of five new settlements in Judaea and Samaria and of an urban center in the northern Golan Heights, IDF radio noted. The Defense Ministry and the Zionist federation's settlement department have drawn up plans to expand the Jewish population in Judaea and Samaria to 70,000 within the next 3 years, according to DAVAR.

West Bank, Gaza Distrubances -- Security forces imposed a curfew on Tubas, Qabatiyah and Qalandiyah refugee camp after disturbances in these areas on 25 April, Jerusalem radio reported. A policeman was wounded when students tried to attack the Tubas police station and the IDF used teargas to break up the demonstrators, according to the radio. Security forces also broke up a demonstration by Rafah residents in connection with the town's redivision, the radio said. An inhabitant of Janin District was wounded the previous day when border police opened fire to disperse rioters, ITIM noted. Members of the banned National Guidance Committee called for a general strike in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza starting on 25 April, according to Jerusalem radio.

Mosad Chief -- The London SUNDAY TIMES reported that contrary to Sharon's wishes, Prime Minister Begin has appointed Maj Gen Yequti'el Adam as the new head of Mosad, HA'ARETZ noted.

## Lebanon

Security Situation -- The IDF has continued to reinforce its forces in the Christian border strip, according to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, while Voice of Lebanon radio said the Israelis have installed a missile network in the south. Meanwhile, Beirut radio reported that an Israeli force blew up a house in the southern village of Bra'shit. Voice of Hope radio said the terrorists violated the cease-fire by shelling Marj 'Uyun on 25 April while the Voice of Palestine cited an AS-SAFIR report that the IDF opened heavy machinegun fire from the border strip the same day. Voice of Palestine also claimed that Mosad has sent a squad to Beirut to assassinate Palestinian leaders.

Fighting between rival factions in Tripoli broke out anew on 23 April, but died down after security forces began patrolling the streets to enforce a cease-fire, Beirut radio reported. The radio said 13 people were killed and 21 wounded in the clashes in the city on 22 April. Meanwhile, a Communist Party official was assassinated in Beirut, according to the Voice of Lebanon. On 24 April, a bomb shattered the front door of the AFP office in Beirut, the agency noted. The explosion followed a telephone call to AFP from "friends of Carlos," who threatened to strike at French officials if any Arab is harmed or humiliated in France.

U.S. Ambassador on Raid -- U.S. Ambassador Robert Dillon denied a charge by his Soviet counterpart that the recent Israeli raid on Lebanon had U.S. consent, Beirut radio noted.

## PLO

'Arafat-Al-Qadhdhafi Meeting -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met in Libya with Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on 24 April, the Voice of Palestine radio reported. The latest developments in the area, including the Israeli air attack on Lebanon, were reviewed.

PLO Official, PFLP-GC on Cease-Fire -- Israel has always tried to get rid of the Lebanese cease-fire agreement because it is a burden on it, Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, stated in an interview broadcast by Monte Carlo radio. The Palestinians know how, when and where to reply to Israeli attacks, he added. The PLO has studied this matter and has made the appropriate decision, Al-Wazir remarked.

Meanwhile the Kuwaiti office of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command called for a review of the cease-fire decision on Lebanon's border, according to a front statement reported by the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA'. The statement called for the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement to respond decisively and firmly to the recent Israeli air attack on Lebanon.

Cairo PLO Office -- The PLO does not at this time intend to reopen its office in Cairo, according to a Palestinian source cited by Voice of Palestine radio. The source denied that any contact exists between the PLO and Egypt. Earlier, an Arab diplomatic source stated that the PLO would open an office in Cairo to handle issues relating to occupied Arab territories, according to AFP.

## Iraq

Talks on War -- Three ranking Iraqi officials have gone to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan and Guinea to hold talks on the Iran-Iraq war, INA reported. A verbal message outlining Iraq's position on the war was conveyed by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz to Kuwaiti Amir Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, according to INA. Later, 'Aziz outlined Iraq's military and political position on the war at a meeting in Jordan with King Husayn, Amman television reported. Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, SPA reported. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hamid 'Alwan will deliver to Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure a message from President Husayn regarding the Islamic Good Offices Committees' peace mission and efforts to settle the war with Iran in conformity with Iraq's readiness to establish peace in the region, according to INA.

Husayn on Iran, Syria -- Iraq will not allow anyone, be it Iran or anyone else, to humiliate its people, army and land, President Husayn stated at a meeting with Kuwaiti editors, Baghdad radio reported. Iranian designs will not stop at Iraq's border; therefore, Iraq must fight until the last bullet and the last drop of blood, Husayn added. The Syrians are mistaken if they think that halting the flow of oil will demoralize the Iraqis, Husayn also noted.

Syrian Airspace Violation -- A Syrian military helicopter entered Iraqi airspace on 25 April in northerwestern Iraq, INA reported citing a military source. This was the third violation of Iraqi airspace by a Syrian aircraft in 2 weeks, INA noted.

## Iran

Security Situation -- At least 50 counterrevolutionaries were killed and another 100 wounded on 24 April in clashes with government forces near the towns of Baneh and Sar Dasht, IRNA reported. In another development, 50 counterrevolutionaries were killed and a number of others wounded in Kordestan when their positions came under the fire of security forces, according to IRNA.

Coup Plot -- Ayatollah Kazem Shari'atmadari is under house arrest for his alleged involvement in a plot against Iran, AFP reported. His house is under surveillance and he may not freely communicate with people, Prosecutor General Musavi-Tabrizi stated at a press conference reported by AFP. All available documents clearly show he endorsed the plot, the prosecutor stated, according to IRNA.

Mojahedin-e Khalq Leader -- Engineer 'Ali Zarkesh has been selected to lead the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization in Iran, according to a statement by Mojahedin leader Mas'ud Rajavi, reported by the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio. Zarkesh was assigned the position after the death of Musa Khiabani, who was second in command of the Mojahedin-e Khalq.

## Afghanistan

Rebel Offensive -- Nearly 10,000 Afghan rebels are attempting to capture the border city of Khowst in Paktia Province, AFP reported on 24 April citing Afghan sources.

Counterrevolutionaries Captured -- Sixty-seven "counterrevolutionaries" were captured in Qandahar Province recently, Kabul radio reported.

Soviet Helicopter Downed -- Afghan rebels recently downed a Soviet helicopter that was bombing rebel bases in Herat Province, according to the office of the Afghan Muslim mujahidin in Zahedan, IRNA reported.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

# CONTENTS

*Middle East and Africa*

*Vol V No 080* *26 April 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

AFP Reports PLO To Open Office in Cairo A 1
PLO Denial [VOP] A 1
PFLP-General Command Office Issues Statement [Kuwait AL-ANBA' 23 Apr] A 1
VOP on Arrival of Mosad Elements in Beirut A 1
AS-SIYASAH Interviews PLO Intelligence Chief [Kuwait 22 Apr] A 2
'Arafat Meets Amal Movement Delegation 25 April [VOP] A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Cabinet Lauds Solidarity With Palestinians C 1

KUWAIT

Minister Comments on Sinai Withdrawal C 1
Moroccan Prime Minister Bouabid Arrives 24 April C 1
Attends Joint Talks C 2
Foreign Minister Receives PDRY Counterpart C 3

OMAN

'UMAN: Sinai Withdrawal Gain for Arabs [24 Apr] C 3
Authorities Return Navy Plane, Copilot to Iran C 3

SAUDI ARABIA

GCC Oil Ministers Arrive in Riyadh 24 April C 3
Emergency Meeting Ends C 4
Iraqi Vice President Arrives for Visit 25 Apr C 4
Meets King Khalid C 4
King Khalid Addresses Cabinet on Budget C 4
Riyadh Cites Reports on Al-Qadhdhafi's Problems C 5

UAE

Oil Minister Reports Cut in Oil Production [AFP] C 5
Comments on Riyadh Meeting C 6

PDRY

Officials Attend Reception for Soviet Ambassador C 6

YAR

President Calls for Confrontation With Israel C 6
Iranian Charge d'Affaires Resigns Post [INA] C 7

EGYPT


Mubarak on Relations With Israel, Autonomy D 1
Israeli Forces, Equipment Leave Sinai 24 April D 2
Administration Takes Over Various Sinai Areas D 2
Flag Raised in Tiran, Sanafir 25 April D 2
3 Airports in Sinai Begin Operations 25 April D 2
Prime Minister Declares 25 Apr Official Holiday D 3
Mubarak Attends Ceremony at As-Sadat's Tomb D 3
Cairo Radio Relays Rafah Flag-Raising Ceremony D 3
Mubarak Television Message to Egyptians D 4
Mubarak Congratulates Citizens on Sinai Recovery D 5
Mubarak, Begin Make Joint Television Address D 5
Mubarak Sends Cable to Begin on Sinai Withdrawal D 7
Mubarak Sends Cable to Reagan on Withdrawal D 7
'Ali Says Peace Not Mere Legal Comittment D 8
'Ali on Autonomy Talks, Sinai Withdrawal D 8
Assembly Committee Releases Statement on Sinai D 11
Abu Ghazalah Addresses Message to Armed Forces D 11
Cairo Press Comments on Sinai Withdrawal D 11


IRAQ


President Comments on Gulf War, Syrian Measures E 1
Syrian Helicopter Violates Airspace 25 April E 1
Ibrahim, 'Aziz, 'Alwan Depart on Round of Talks E 2
AL-MAJALLAH: New, Sophisticated Weapons Received [24-30 Apr] E 2


LEBANON


Soviet Envoy Claims U.S. Backed Israeli Raid G 1
U.S. Envoy Denies Charge G 1
AN-NAHAR: Raid Was Price of Israeli Withdrawal [22 Apr] G 1
VOP Reports Israeli Military Movements G 3
Beirut Radio on Tripoli Cease-Fire Efforts G 3
Meetings Begin G 3
Clashes Cease G 3
Agreement Reached G 3
Clashes Erupt G 4


SYRIA


Meeting in Solidarity With Syria Opens 24 April H 1
Statement Issued H 2
Soviet Official Expresses Support for Syria H 3
Soviet Official Reaffirms Support Against Israel H 3


ISRAEL


IDF Completes Evacuation of Sinai Peninsula I 1
Sharon Says 'Limit of Concessions' Reached I 1
Cabinet Discusses Sinai, Yamit Evacuation I 2
Reagan Sends Message to Begin on Sinai Withdrawal I 3
Agreement on Tabah Negotiations Reported Near I 3
Agreement Reached I 3
Antiwithdrawal Activists Form Political Movement I 4
Settlements Established I 4
Egypt's Murtada Interviewed on Future of Relations [POST 23 Apr] I 4
Murtada Comments on Interview [POST 25 Apr] I 6
Jerusalem Arabic Denounces Habash's Tactics I 7
Hammer Proposes Law To Protect Settlements I 7
Settlement of Judaea, Samaria, Golan To Expand I 8

Settlement Plan Envisages 70,000 Jews in W. Bank [DAVAR 23 Apr] I 8
Eytan Comments on IDF Presence in South Lebanon [HA'ARETZ 22 Apr] I 9
Government's 'Brinkmanship' Policy Scored [HA'ARETZ 23 Apr] I 9
Janin Area Resident Wounded by IDF During Riot I 12
Pro-Zionist Golan Druze Lives Said Endangered I 12
Ministry Says 300 Golan Druze Return ID Cards I 12

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Moi Addresses Closing Session of OAU Meeting [Nairobi] P 1
Official Briefs Newsmen [Nairobi] P 1
Communique Issued [Nairobi] P 2
Morocco Embassy: No Chance [AFP] P 3

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

U.S. Military Aid to Morocco Criticized Q 1

LIBYA

Leaders Meet With PLO's 'Arafat 24 April Q 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Meeting Q 2
VOP Report Q 2
Jabir Reception Q 2
'Arafat Departure Q 3
Talks Begin With Poland's Siwicki 21 April Q 3
At-Talhi Meeting Q 3
Delegation's Departure Q 3

MOROCCO

Return of Sinai Cited as Egypt's 'Great Gain' Q 3

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Minister Asks Demilitarization of Factions [AFP] S 1

GABON

Cooperation Talks With Romania Begin 22 April S 1

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Tonha: If RSA Advances, Cubans May Fight [AFP] U 1
Authorities Deny Existence of British Base U 2
Five Sentenced to Death for Undermining Security U 2
Dos Santos Greets Brezhnev on Lenin's Birthday U 3

NAMIBIA

Recent SWAPO Attack 'Failed Completely' U 3
Security Forces Kill 33 'Insurgents' in 2 Weeks [AFP] U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Commentary: SWAPO Blocks Negotiated Settlement U 4

ZIMBABWE

Arms Caches Found; Three 'Bases' Destroyed U 4
[Johannesburg]
Retention of DPRK Instructors Under Review [AFP] U 4

AFP REPORTS PLO TO OPEN OFFICE IN CAIRO

NC251306 Paris AFP in English 1249 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Amman, 25 Apr (AFP) -- The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has decided to open an office in Cairo to handle issues relating to occupied Arab territories, an Arab diplomatic source in Jordan said today. The source said Yusuf al-Qatari, former director of the PLO bureau in Amman, will head the new Cairo office. It will deal primarily with affairs concerning the Gaza Strip, the source said.

Neither confirmation nor denial of this report could be obtained from Palestinian sources in Beirut. The PLO along with Arab countries decided, at a Baghdad summit in 1978, to break diplomatic relations with Cairo and close associations there in reaction to the late President Anwar as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem in November, 1977.

PLO Denial

NC260742 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] A Palestinian source has denied any contact exists between the PLO and the Egyptian regime. The source said that at this time the PLO does not intend to reopen its offices in Cairo. The source explained that Brother Yusuf al-Qatari, former director of the Occupied Homeland Department, no longer occupies any post in the PLO. An Arab diplomatic source in Amman had stated that the PLO had decided to reopen its office for the affairs of the occupied homeland in Cairo, adding that Al-Qatari will manage this office.

PFLP-GENERAL COMMAND OFFICE ISSUES STATEMENT

GF241849 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 23 Apr 82 p 2

[Text] The office of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command in Kuwait yesterday called for reviewing the cease-fire decision on Lebanon's border with Israel. This came in a statement issued by the front yesterday, which says in part:

Ever since the cease-fire decision was made, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command has been aware that the Zionist enemy will not desist from the policy he has charted -- a policy that was approved by the Zionist Knesset and aims to destroy all the elements that enable the Palestinian revolution to continue its armed struggle. The recent Zionist air attack is proof of this Zionist policy.

We call on all brothers and comrades in the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement to respond decisively and firmly to this attack and teach the enemy another lesson, as we did in July 1981.

Silence in the face of the enemy's bullying increases his arrogance and makes us a resistance that receives blows without replying to them. This puts us in a position similar to the position of the Arab regimes that signed the armistice and then went to sleep. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command urges everyone to reconsider their stand on the cease-fire decision.

VOP ON ARRIVAL OF MOSAD ELEMENTS IN BEIRUT

JN242002 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1845 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] In Beirut, the Palestinian revolution's security organs stressed that a group belonging to Zionist intelligence, the Mosad, came to Beirut at the beginning of last month to assassinate some Palestinian resistance leaders.

Citing the Palestinian revolution's security organs, the Lebanese news agency said this group consisted of three men and one woman holding bogus French passports. It added that other groups had earlier arrived in Beirut and resided in the eastern area of the capital. Some of them, it said, are staying at the (Alexander) Hotel in Al-Ashrafiyah.

Interpol had earlier informed Lebanese security organs of some suspect elements' entry into Lebanon to assassinate some Palestinian leaders. The names of some of these elements have actually been received by the security organ at Beirut International Airport. The first names of these elements are (Plarre) (Caroline), (Elie) and (Jeane).

The Lebanese news agency stressed that Bashir al-Jumayyil, commander of the so-called Lebanese forces, received Zionist officers who arrived at Juniyah port in the company of an officer from agent Haddad's border strip militias. The meeting took place at the yacht club. The agency asserted that the meeting resulted in an agreement on carrying out joint operations against the Palestinian revolution. The agency indicated that those officers are weapons and explosives experts and came at the invitation of Bashir al-Jumayyil for the purpose of coordination and training on some Spanish weapons recently received by the Phalangist militias.

These sources also stressed that As'ad Shaftari, an official in charge of the security organ of the Phalangist war council, left for occupied Palestine upon instructions of the Israeli Mosad, which asked him for information on the numbers and positions of the Palestinian resistance forces in the Lebanese coastal area.

AS-SIYASAH INTERVIEWS PLO INTELLIGENCE CHIEF

GF231709 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 22 Apr 82 p 16

[Interview given by 'Atallah 'Atallah, alias Abu az-Za'im, PLO intelligence chief and Fatah Revolution Council member, to AS-SIYASAH's Husayn at-Tantawi -- place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What are the facts of the Israeli troop concentrations on the southern Lebanese border?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the enemy is fully aware he should exploit the present state of Arab weakness and has been intensifying his troop concentrations in northern Palestine since February 1982. In addition to these troop concentrations, the enemy has been training his forces and holding maneuvers. He has also been constantly changing his units so that the area is full of military activity -- and thus he is in a position to launch a sudden attack. These troop concentrations reached a peak last March. The enemy wanted to take some action but so far he has postponed the zero hour.

Palestinian monitoring units report that the enemy has massed three divisions along the confrontation line extending from the Golan Heights to the sea. There are other divisions further inland (held in reserve) in northern Palestine and in a state of readiness. The matter is merely one of timing.

[Question] What is the truth about the enemy's claim to possessing 25 nuclear bombs?

[Answer] It is not important to count the number of nuclear bombs the enemy possesses. What is important is to confirm that the enemy in fact possesses such bombs -- and they are of the 20-kt caliber. In the early 1970's. the enemy had only 13 nuclear bombs. This weapon does not frighten us -- it is more of a propaganda ploy than a weapon. This is because the use of such a weapon would mean the world's destruction. Moreover, the Israelis live within a small area and will be affected by the nuclear fallout. By talking about this matter they seek to frighten the Arab nation. However, the world knows that our nation is too great and noble to be frightened by such propaganda ploys, whose purpose is psychological warfare.

[Question] Why have fedayeen operations inside the occupied territories diminished?

[Answer] Who said this? Operations inside the occupied territories continue. Furthermore, there has been our people's uprising that is demonstrated daily. Our people are proclaiming their rejection of the occupation and are saying to the world that they support their legitimate leadership, the PLO, and their elected leaders, the mayors.

However, if you are referring to the decrease in fedayeen operations from southern Lebanon, I say to you that they have stopped completely. This is because we adhere to the cease-fire. Outside southern Lebanon there is no commitment to the cease-fire whatsoever. We can strike from anywhere our feet and rockets can reach. Allow me to say that we have many tactics which we do not necessarily announce.

[Question] Are there any new Palestinian efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war?

[Answer] There is no doubt that for the Palestinians, the Iraqi-Iranian war represents a great loss and disappointment. If this exorbitant price being paid in Arab and Muslim blood, weapons, ammunition, funds and losses to the economy were diverted to the occupied territories, it would achieve a great deal. Therefore, I believe that the continuation of this war does not serve the interests of our Arab and Muslim nation. The efforts we made in the past notwithstanding, Palestinian endeavors in this regard will not stop.

[Question] Following the Egyptian president's announcement that he will not go to Jerusalem and his stand on the autonomy talks, have there been attempts to bring about a rapprochement between Egypt and the PLO?

[Answer] Let me say frankly that such an issue depends on President Husni Mubarak's decision. All of us know that As-Sadat was the vice president of the great leader 'Abd an-Nasir, whom we respect and regard as a historic leader of the Arab nation. Anyone who criticizes his role objectively can only say it was positive. As-Sadat then became president of Egypt and retained the same status as the leader of a great Arab country with a glorious history. No one differed with As-Sadat because he was Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat. Indeed, he was respected and honored by all the Arab countries, including the Palestinians. It was when he embarked on his mistaken policy toward the Palestinians that the attitude of the Palestinians and Arabs changed.

There is no doubt that we support the Egyptian Army and people, the heart of the Arab nation. No one has the right to besmirch the Egyptian Army that has fought, struggled and fought the Arab nation's battles. No one has the right to deprive Egypt and the Egyptian people of their historic role. Egypt is a great Arab country. Now President Husni Mubarak has come and has to answer the question you ask -- it is not Abu 'Ammar or Abu as-Za'im who can answer this question. It is President Mubarak who can define his position in the Arab nation.

## 'ARAFAT MEETS AMAL MOVEMENT DELEGATION 25 APRIL

JN251532 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met today with an Amal movement delegation. The delegation was headed by Nabih Barri, the president of Amal, and included other members of the leadership of the Amal movement. Fatah Central Committee members Abu al-Walid [Sa'd Sayil], Abu al-Hawl [Yahil 'Abd al-Hamid] and Hani al-Hasan attended the meeting which dealt with the current situation on the local Lebanese arena.

## BAHRAIN

### CABINET LAUDS SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIANS

GF260400 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Excerpt] The Cabinet held an ordinary session in Government House today under Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah.

In a statement after the session, Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirawi, development and industry minister and acting minister of state for Cabinet affairs, said the prime minister lauded the national stand of the Bahraini people on 14 April, when work in ministries, institutions, general and private establishments came to a halt in response to the call by Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Azi Saudi king and chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization, to express solidarity with the Palestinian people in their uprising and struggle against the Zionist enemy in the occupied Arab territories. He said this stand helped in attracting the attention of world public opinion and human conscience to the painful Palestinian situation caused by acts of violence, suppression and coercion exercised by the oppresive Israeli occupation authorities in order to liquidate, annihilate and expel these people -- a thing that makes it incumbent upon world public opinion in general and Arab and Islamic opinion in particular to aid these people morally and materially at this decisive stage of their struggle. He said the Cabinet decided to contribute 1 day's wages of government officials and employees of public establishments to the Palestinian people.

## KUWAIT

### MINISTER COMMENTS ON SINAI WITHDRAWAL

LD251336 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1232 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Apr (KUNA) -- Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said that today does not mean much as far as Kuwait is concerned. The minister was commenting on the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai in accordance with the Camp David accords.

The minister said: What we would like to see today is the accomplishment of other positive steps that would free the Arab Republic of Egypt from the shackles of the Camp David agreement and from the foreign presence in the Sinai desert. He added: Today does not mean much to us so long as division exists and the shackles remain. He added: While happy that the Zionists are evacuating every inch of the Sinai territory, Israel continues to occupy other Arab territories, and the Camp David agreement, which is historically unique, continues to exist.

### MOROCCAN PRIME MINISTER BOUABID ARRIVES 24 APRIL

LD241754 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Summary] Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid arrived in Kuwait on an official visit at about 1700 today. The heir apparent and prime minister and other ministers and officials were at the airport to welcome the guest.

The guest is accompanied by a delegation comprising Abdellatif Jouahri, finance minister; Tayyib Ben Shaykh, minister delegate to the prime minister for economic affairs; Mohamed Tougani, secretary of state for administrative affairs; Abdellatif Semlali, secretary of state for youth and sports; and other officials.

The guest made a statement expressing his pleasure at being in Kuwait and said the visit will contribute to further bilateral cooperation and that it comes at a time when the Arabs need to consolidate their unity and solidarity.

Attends Joint Talks

LD251834 Kuwait KUNA in English 1556 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Apr (KUNA) -- Official talks started here Sunday afternoon between the Kuwaiti delegation chaired by His Highness the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah and the Moroccan team led by Premier Maati Bouabid centering on fraternal relations and means of strenghtening them in all spheres, it was announced here. The talks further dealt with Middle East developments and other issues of mutual concern, the announcement added.

The Kuwaiti delegation comprised Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn, Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, Minister of Housing Hamad 'Isa ar-Rujayb, Minister of Finance and Planning 'Abd al-Latif Yusuf al-Hamad, Under Secretary at the Foreign Ministry Rashid ar-Rashid and Kuwaiti envoy to Rabat Abdallah Ahmad Husayn in addition to other senior state officials.

The Moroccan team included Minister of Economy Affairs Tayyib Ben Shaykh, Finance Minister Abdellatif Jouahri, Ambassador to Kuwait Mohammed Naciri in addition to other top officials.

Unofficial reports said that the two countries discussed possible joint ventures, Kuwaiti contribution to Moroccan development projects and means of attaining Arab solidarity.

State Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn told reporters following the meeting that both parties discussed bilateral relations in general with special emphasis on economic relations and means of promoting them in addition to speeding up implementation of joint ventures. The delegates agreed on holding the Kuwaiti-Moroccan financial committee meeting headed by finance ministers of both states next month in Kuwait. The meeting will be held following scrutinized preparations to come out with fruitful results to implement the two countries' aspirations in establishing solid economic cooperation, Husayn added.

The state minister said that the conferees reviewed their cultural relations and reached a preliminary agreement to draw practical steps to the accords already concluded during H.S. The Crown Prince's visit to Morocco last December. A two-man committee will meet in Kuwait to further discuss the issue after the Moroccan team tabled detailed proposals to that effect which will be studied by Kuwaiti specialists prior to endorsing them in the next joint assembly, Husayn stated.

The minister of state said that difficulty in communications between two countries and its impact on development of relations were reviewed with concern in view of this field's importance in bringing the two Arab countries closer. The two sides approved the holding of a meeting Monday grouping officials from the Moroccan delegation and Kuwaiti communications experts to tackle the issue following popular and official complaints, he added.

Husayn pointed out that the Moroccan delegation submitted a number of domestic projects that falls within the framework of Kuwait Fund of Arab Economic Development's [KFAED] activities. He said that officials at the KFAED will be approached to study the proposals and determine their priorities before approving joint agreements.

The Kuwaiti minister noted that the meeting was fruitful and comprehensive and revealed that a separate meeting grouping premiers of both countries was held prior to the enlarged one. The two leaders discussed Arab problems, political issues of common interest and bilateral relations, Husayn concluded.

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES PDRY COUNTERPART

LD251622 Kuwait KUNA in English 1515 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Apr (KUNA) -- Kuwait deputy premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad met here Sunday with the Iraqi Deputy Premier Tariq 'Aziz and discussed with him developments related to the Iraqi-Iranian war in particular and the Arab state of affairs in general.

Shaykh Sabah also met with the visiting South Yemen Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad who arrived here last night. Foreign Ministry sources said the two ministers discussed bilateral relations, the Iraqi-Iranian war and the deterioration in the relations between Iraq and Syria. South Yemen is a member of the Arab steadfastness front which also [illegible]ps Syria, Libya, Algeria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

OMAN

'UMAN: SINAI WITHDRAWAL GAIN FOR ARABS

GF241035 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Manama, 24 Apr (WAKH) -- The Omani newspaper 'UMAN today says the Israeli withdrawal is a gain for the Arabs and that they should make as much use of it as they can, especially since it is an Arab success that can be added to the gains achieved by the October 1973 war. In its editorial today, the paper says this withdrawal will reduce the area under Israeli control to a third of what it was following the 1967 war. The paper adds that this withdrawal constitutes an important precedent in spite of Israeli attempts to claim the withdrawal is unlikely to be repeated or have any positive results on the Arab level and to uselessly imply that feelings in Egypt and the Arab world on this matter are different. Thus, the paper adds, Israel wants to do its best in order to deepen the gap between Egypt and its Arab sister states.

AUTHORITIES RETURN NAVY PLANE, COPILOT TO IRAN

GF231345 Doha QNA in Arabic 1245 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Muscat, 23 Apr (QNA) -- The QNA correspondent in Muscat has learned that Omani authorities have returned to the Iranian authorities the Iranian aircraft that landed recently in Oman. The QNA correspondent has also learned that one of the aircraft's copilots has returned to Iran at his own request, while the other has decided not to return to his country. Omani authorities will give him the freedom to go wherever he chooses. The aircraft, a Shrike Commander of the Iranian Navy, landed in the Az-Zahirah area in the Omani hinterland on 11 April.

SAUDI ARABIA

GCC OIL MINISTERS ARRIVE IN RIYADH 24 APRIL

LD241520 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1450 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Apr (SPA) -- The oil ministers of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council member countries have begun to arrive in Riyadh to attend a meeting later this evening.

UAE Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, Kuwaiti Minister of Oil Affairs Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah, Bahraini Minister of Development and Industry Yusuf ash-Shirawi, and Omani Minister of Petroleum and Minerals Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari arrived in the kingdom this afternoon, while Qatari Finance and Oil Minister Shaykh 'abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani arrived here this evening.

During their meeting, the ministers will discuss the council's petroleum policy and review in particular the recommendations of the council's technical committee, which met recently at the council's secretariat in Riyadh to discuss oil products and their prices.

Emergency Meeting Ends

LD242034 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] GCC oil ministers ended their emergency meeting at 2045 today. Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani told journalists at the end of the meeting that the subjects discussed included the prices of local oil products in the Gulf states, what steps should be taken in the future in regard to these prices and coordination in pricing policy. Also discussed were industrial activities with regard to oil products.

He said the ministers had adopted a number of resolutions, among which are carrying out additional studies relative to the oil products of the council member states and recommending that our governments take limited action with respect to these studies. The oil minister expressed great pleasure at the current situation in the oil market. He said the problems are disappearing. He also stressed the OPEC countries' adherence to the current oil price of $34 per barrel.

IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR VISIT 25 APR

GF250921 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0910 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Apr (WAKH) -- 'Izzat Ibrahim, Iraqi vice president and member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, arrived in Riyadh this morning on a visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He was received at the airport by Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and chief of the Saudi National Guard; Prince Sattam ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy amir of the Riyadh region; and Shafiq ad-Darraj, Iraqi ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Meets King Khalid

LD251344 Riyadh SPA in English 1222 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Apr (SPA) -- King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received Iraqi Vice President 'Izzat Ibrahim, who delivered a message to the Saudi monarch from President Saddam Husayn. The audience was attended by Crown Prince Fahd; Prince 'Abdallah, second deputy premier and commander of the National Guard; and Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister.

KING KHALID ADDRESSES CABINET ON BUDGET

LD232142 Riyadh SPA in English 1927 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Apr (SPA) -- King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz tonight called on all public servants and the people to cooperate in implementing the new stage budget, which goes into effect tomorrow. Speaking at the beginning of a special Cabinet session held under his chairmanship, the king said in a brief speech that the new budget was aimed at ensuring development and prosperity for the people. "We hope that all employees and citizens will cooperate to implement it in a manner ensuring the interest of our dear homeland," he added.

He thanked the Ministry of Finance and National Economy and all those who took part in preparing the budget for the effort they had exerted.

The Saudi monarch later issued a decree adopting the new budget which totals SR.313.400 million.

Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, the deputy prime minister; Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; and Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the minister of defense and aviation, were among government leaders who attended the Council of Minister's session.

Tonight's meeting is considered as one of the most important held by the Cabinet. In a press statement after the Cabinet meeting, Information Minister Dr. Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said the Council was briefed by the Minister of Finance and National Economy Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl on the state budget and [words indistinct] aspects relating to the kingdom's economic policy. He added that King Khalid later spoke about the importance of achieving the aims outlined in the budget, including diversifying production and improving educational, health, municipal and social services. The monarch stressed the importance of all people enjoying prosperity and sharing in the country's economic resources as well as in building their homeland on strong foundations.

Dr Yamani said the Council also noted with satisfaction achievements [words indistinct] in the past financial year. He added that [word indistinct] that expenditure [words indistinct] the coming fiscal year would result in (?another) major step towards achieving [words indistinct] progress and development.

The information minister quoted Crown Prince Fahd as expressing great satisfaction with the economic achievements recorded over the last financial year and belief that progress would continue, bringing about more prosperity and welfare. The crown prince said all citizens should join in the country's total development.

## RIYADH CITES REPORTS ON AL-QADHDHAFI'S PROBLEMS

LD241310 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Excerpt] According to the Saudi paper AR-RIYAD, citing well-informed Libyan sources, a military mutiny took place at the Libyan airbase at Tajura following a dispute over the technical maintenance of a number of MiG's, which the Libyan General Staff decided should be carried out by some GDR technicians under the supervision of a Russian expert. This was taken by the Libyan military as a great insult and they staged protests and mutinied against the orders issued to them by Al-Qadhdhafi personally. The reports of this mutiny have spread among the other forces, officers and men at the base. Tension still continues.

The Libyan colonel has ordered the arrest of a number of officers, including a major, for investigation.

Other reports speak of a serious illness Al-Qadhdhafi has been suffering from. It is this disease that makes him act so nervously and hysterically. Informed sources in Libya said Al-Qadhdhafi consulted a psychiatrist in Vienna during his recent visit to Austria.

# UAE

## OIL MINISTER REPORTS CUT IN OIL PRODUCTION

NC251651 Paris AFP in English 1617 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Nicosia, 25 Apr (AFP) -- The United Arab Emirates cut its oil production to one million barrels a day April 1 in conformity with decisions taken by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Emirates Oil Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah said in today's edition of the MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY published here.

Mr al-'Utaybah said the reduction, particularly as it affects offshore drilling, will cause problems in supply to the liquified natural gas refinery on the Island of Das, saying such problems had already manifested at the Rouweiss gas refinery.

Comments on Riyadh Meeting

GF251212 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Apr (WAKH) -- Dr Mani'ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE petroleum and natural resources minister, returned from Riyadh this afternoon after participating in the GCC oil ministers conference held there yesterday. Mr al-'Utaybah said upon arrival that the second meeting of the GCC oil ministers has given a new impetus to GCC oil coordination and marked a new step toward more comprehensive Gulf unity. "The oil ministers decided to take practical steps in cooperation and coordination in the field of oil products, particularly in pricing, distribution and orientation of production," he said. He said the directors of the national oil companies in the GCC countries will meet early next month to further study cooperation in oil products and to lay down practical bases for this cooperation. He said he acquainted the GCC oil ministers with the outcome of the meeting of the OPEC followup committee and felt their satisfaction over the positive developments and the improving oil market situation.

PDRY

OFFICIALS ATTEND RECEPTION FOR SOVIET AMBASSADOR

EA251946 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Summary] 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, first deputy chairman and minister of local government, last night attended the Foreign Ministry's farewell party for the Soviet ambassador in Aden, Feliz Fedotov.

"Deputy Foreign Minister Muhammad Ghalib Ahmad made a speech at the party in which he praised the role of Comrade Fedotov during his stay in our country as ambassador. He described him as belonging to that class of rare ambassadors who demonstrate great capacity for work. He represented his country to the best of his ability. He also expressed high appreciation for the sincere internationalist support provided by the friendly USSR and the rest of the socialist community to our country without any conditions or restrictions. He said our people will always remain very proud of this sincere and disinterested internationalist support. The party was attended by Brother Mahmud an-Najashi, member of the YSP Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Central Committee; Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in Aden and dean of the diplomatic corps; heads of mission of socialist countries and other officials."

YAR

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR CONFRONTATION WITH ISRAEL

GF231438 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0949 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] San'a', 23 Apr (WAKH) -- YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has called on the Arab and Islamic states to confront the Zionist and colonialist aggression ensnaring the Arab nation.

In a statement reported by WAM, the YAR president expressed his country's support for any Arab meeting to adopt a unified stand on the Palestinian cause and put an end to the fragmentation of the Arab homeland.

He said: "We consider concurrence on this cause to be an important and necessary key to bypassing this deteriorating Arab phase. Otherwise, the situation will persist."

The YAR president affirmed the need to open the door to Arab and Islamic volunteers to join the ranks of the Palestinian revolution in waging the holy jihad and reinforcing the confrontation countries. He said real action should be taken to consolidate the force of the Palestinian revolution and support the popular rampage in the occupied territories, instead of just adopting a collective stand of protest in the Arab and Islamic homeland against the Zionist practices in the occupied Arab territories and sanctuaries, even though this stand asserts the unity of goal and destiny of Arabs and Muslims.

Answering a question on opening the door to Yemeni volunteers to join the Palestinian resistance, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih said: "This has become an established fact of national struggle that Yemeni people rush to enthusiastically. Our country is proud to receive every other week the relics of our martyred and devoted sons who responded ardently to our decision to volunteer the Yemeni people for the ranks of the Palestinian revolution and pay the duty of holy jihad to liberate Palestine and purge the Islamic sanctuaries of Zionist defilement." The YAR president affirmed the belief of his country that the freedom of Palestine cannot be ensured except with the sacrifice of Arab blood, cohesion in trenches of struggle and decisive confrontation, explaining that his government had decided to consider all Yemeni martyrs who fall in action, as sacrifice, in the ranks of the Palestinian revolution to be martyrs of the 26 September revolution. Their families will enjoy the rights and privileges the government offers to the martyrs of the Yemeni revolution.

On the YAR stand if the Palestinian people in the south of Lebanon are exposed to an Israeli attack, the YAR president said: "Any attack against the Lebanese or Palestinian people is an attack against the Yemeni people, and we must confront it with everything in our power and without hesitation."

On the U.S. stand on the Palestinian cause -- a hostile stand on the Arab nation in general -- the YAR president said this is matter that requires a collective Arab treatment.

On the dangers of the continuation of the Iranian-Iraqi war, the YAR president called for adopting a unified Arab stand stemming from the pan-Arab responsibility of all the Arab countries in order to put an end to this war, especially because anti-Arab and greedy forces have begun to use this war against the Arab nation.

Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih described YAR-UAE relations as special and based on a common national vision which believes in the necessity of coordination and cooperation in all fields. He expressed his confidence that these relations will progress further, thanks to the constructive efforts of the joint coordination council.

IRANIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES RESIGNS POST

JN231759 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] San'a', 23 Apr (INA) -- It has been learned here that Iranian Charge d'Affaires in San'a' (Mehdi Bratzadah) has resigned his post in protest against the Iranian regime's acts of repression, policy and aggressive stands.

Reliable sources said that the Iranian charge d'affaires, the third to occupy this post in less than a year, has left the YAR capital for a European state. (Bratzadah), 35 years old, assumed the post 5 months ago in place of the former charge d'affaires, who was expelled by the YAR Government in view of his hostile acts against the YAR and the Arab nation.

(Bratzadah) has told his friends before leaving San'a' he had resigned his post because the Iranian Government is forcing him to hunt down Iranian opposition figures and to carry out acts incompatible with his diplomatic status.

Former Iranian Charge d'Affaires in San'a' ('Abdallah Jehan) had resigned his post for the same reasons.

MUBARAK ON RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, AUTONOMY

NC251345 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) -- The Armed Forces Supreme Council held a meeting at noon today under President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. Army and other branches commanders, People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim and Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din participated in the meeting.

Following the 40-minute meeting, President Mubarak answered questions by journalists on the next steps in the peace process. He said: The next step is to continue the autonomy talks. I hope we will reach a declaration of good intentions which will be a good example to the other parties so they may join the negotiations for a comprehensive peace.

The following dialogue took place between the president and the journalists:

Question: What about your relations with Israel and the other states in the region?

Answer: There are no problems in our relations with Israel; they will continue as planned.

Question: What about the other states in the region -- your Arab neighbors? What are your plans?

Answer: I have no specific plans at present. I have declared several times that we are prepared to meet with any of the Arab states and to start relations with them, but not at the expense of our relations with Israel.

Question: Do you believe war can be avoided in the area in the coming generations?

Answer: With good intentions and good understanding, war can be avoided in the area.

Question: What will happen to the Palestinians after this stage?

Answer: I have already stated that afterwards we would talk about the autonomy talks. We will definitely continue these talks. In accordance with the Camp David agreements we have two frameworks: The first framework concerns Egypt and Israel; the second deals with a comprehensive solution that must include the Palestine question, which is the crux of the problem.

Question: What is required of the Arab states in the coming stage?

Answer: I ask nothing from them.

Question: Have you settled the question of Tabah?

Answer: The talks are still continuing.

Question: The difficulties that have developed in recent weeks are said to have created some bitterness here over relations with Israel?

Answer: I have sent several messages to Prime Minister Begin informing him that we must build confidence at this stage and strengthen relations between the Egyptian and Israeli peoples by issuing good-will and friendly statements and we must solve minor questions between us immediately, and not leave them to the information media which complicate all matters.

Question: What about the U.S. role in the past and in the future?

Answer: As has been said before, the U.S. role is that of a full partner in the peace process. The United States will continue to act as a full partner in the whole process until we reach a comprehensive solution.

ISRAELI FORCES, EQUIPMENT LEAVE SINAI 24 APRIL

NC242032 Cairo MENA in English 2013 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Rafah, Sinai, 24 Apr (MENA) -- Israeli forces crossed the Sinai border with their equipment back into Israel today, leaving behind only a few military servicemen who are to withdraw tomorrow.

Joyful demonstrations ensued in Sinai villages liberated after fifteen years of occupation.

Israeli patrols are no longer moving in the streets, and the villagers received the Egyptian administration's missions with joyous welcome.

Tomorrow at noon an official ceremony will be held in this border town of Rafah marking the completion of the Israeli pull-out from Sinai.

ADMINISTRATION TAKES OVER VARIOUS SINAI AREAS

NC242250 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2235 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Sharm ash-Shaykh, 24 Apr (MENA) -- The Egyptian administration in southern Sinai completed during the last 24 hours the taking over of Sharm ash-Shaykh, Dahab, Nuwaybi', Ra's Nasrani airfield and Sharm ash-Shaykh marine port. The administration also took over Sharm ash-Shaykh Hotel and Orsal Briqa Hotel.

Meanwhile, 2,700 tons of various food supplies arrived in the liberated areas of southern Sinai. Three refrigerator trailers of 10-ton capacity each arrived in Sharm ash-Shaykh, Dahab and Nuwaybi'. This is in addition to 250,000 gallons of gas and fuel oil for the gas stations in the various towns and to other aircraft fuel for Ra's Nasrania airfield and Ra's an-Naqb. These stations are operated by the Egyptian Petroleum Company.

FLAG RAISED IN TIRAN, SANAFIR 25 APRIL

NC251450 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Sharm ash-Shaykh, 25 Apr (MENA) -- The Egyptian flag was raised today over the islands of Tiran and Sanafir, which are situated opposite Sharm ash-Shaykh at the entrance to the Gulf of Aqaba. This was stated by southern Sinai Governor Lt Gen Fu'ad 'Aziz Ghali at a press conference he held in Sharm ash-Shaykh this afternoon.

3 AIRPORTS IN SINAI BEGIN OPERATIONS 25 APRIL

NC241218 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) -- The Civil Aviation Authority has issued an international notice informing all airports in the world and pilots that the three airports in the Sinai will start operating as of tomorrow, Sunday. The Ra's Nasrani Airport in Sharm ash-Shaykh and the Ra's an-Naqb Airport will be open under Egyptian administration to international civilian aircraft. The Al-Jawrah Airport near Rafah will be open to aircraft of the multinational peacekeeping force.

The Civil Aviation Authority says that these airports will operate only during the day, from 0800 until sunset, for a temporary period until there is an increase in traffic and tourism.

PRIME MINISTER DECLARES 25 APR OFFICIAL HOLIDAY

NC251258 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Myhyi ad-Din has issued a decision making 25 April of each year a national day on the occasion of the liberation of the Sinai. All ministries, departments, public sector units, schools, institutes and universities will observe the day as a holiday. The holiday this year will be on Tuesday, 27 April. Manpower Minister Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad issued a decision making Tuesday, the day after tomorrow, a public sector holiday and making 25 April of each year a holiday for the public sector.

MUBARAK ATTENDS CEREMONY AT AS-SADAT'S TOMB

NC250923 [Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arab at 0856 GMT on 25 April begins to relay the ceremony held at Martyrs Square during which President Muhammad Husni Mubarak is to lay a wreath on the tomb of departed President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat.

The ceremony begins with the singing of the Egyptian national anthem and a military salute being taken by an honor guard. At 0903 GMT, the announcer says President Muhammad Husni Mubarak is arriving along with Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Defense Minister Abu Ghazalah, Consultative Council Chairman Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim and senior armed forces commanders and statesmen. President Mubarak then lays a wreath on the Martyrs' Cenotaph to the tune of the Martyr's March. Later, President Mubarak lays a wreath on the tomb of the late president, Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, and reads the Al-Fatihah, the prayer for the dead.

The announcer then speaks of the procession of peace. This is followed by cheers, the Egyptian national anthem and a salute by the military band. The announcer tells the Egyptians and "the free men everywhere that the Egyptians will give their utmost for the struggle of construction, dignity and a better future for all the sons of Egypt." At 0912 GMT, President Mubarak leaves Martyrs Square without making any speech.

In conclusion, the announcer expresses the hope that "all our future days will be days of work and of embarking on life, so that we will feel all the meaning of life, because there is no life without work." The live relay ends at 0914 GMT.

CAIRO RADIO RELAYS RAFAH FLAG-RAISING CEREMONY

NC251226 [Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1110 GMT on 25 April begins a live relay from Rafah where a representative of the president of the republic will arrive to raise the Egyptian flag.

The announcer greets "the soul of the heroic martyr, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, for his brilliant diplomacy." At 1117 GMT the announcer notes the arrival of Northern Sinai Government Maj Gen Yusuf Sabri Abu Talib, who is deputizing for President Mubarak at the flag-raising cermony. After the national anthem is played, a recitation from the holy Koran follows.

At 1138 GMT, Maj Gen Yusuf Sabri Abu Talib begins to make a speech marking the occasion of the recovery of the Sinai.

After greeting the people, Major General Abu Talib says that Egypt's flag will be raised "on our international border forever." He adds that "on this memorable day, I cannot but mention our heroic armed forces," extolling the soldiers who fought in the Sinai and the martyrs who fell. "As I deputize for his excellency the president of the republic in raising Egypt's flag." I feel I am not doing this alone; rather, I feel all the martyrs, "headed by President Anwar as-Sadat," are doing it with me. This statement is greeted with applause.

Continuing, he notes that the government intends to compensate the Sinai for the many years of neglect. Construction will spread and life will proliferate following its ruination and destruction. The construction process already begun pressages the prosperity to come. "I fell every sincere Arab is happy for the liberation of the Sinai," he says and goes on to greet the steadfast people and those who have returned to the Sinai: Greetings, compatriots. The government will compensate you. You are the guardians of Egypt's eastern gate. All Egypt, "including a hero of the glorious October battle, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak," supports you. The crowd applauds. The speech ends at 1146 GMT and cheers of "long live Egypt" are heard.

At 1148 GMT the announcer says the senior army commanders kiss the Egyptian flag and hand it over to the northern Sinai governor. The Egyptian Flag March is heard. Then Major General Abu Talib reportedly hoists the Egyptian flag on its mast amid "the cheers of thousands shouting 'God is great. Long live Egypt." Meanwhile, the band is heard playing martial music.

At 1153 GMT the announcer reports the arrival of the peace torch and the lighting of it by the president's representative. The announcer notes: "We are a people of peace -- and peace is one of God's good names." He adds that the flags of the governorates are also being hoisted against a background of cheers for the long life of Egypt.

The national anthem, played by the band and sung by the crowd, followed by cheers for the long life of Egypt, President Mubarak and the Sinai.

At 1157 GMT the announcer declares the ceremony concluded and ends the live relay by greeting the souls of the martyrs and all the citizens.

MUBARAK TELEVISION MESSAGE TO EGYPTIANS

NC251555 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1845 GMT 25 Apr 82

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak made the following speech in the television program "The Egyptians" which will be telecast this evening:

In the name of the merciful and compassionate God. Dear brothers and sisters.

The day in which we liberated our sacred land and returned the precious Sinai through struggle, sacrifice and devotion is indeed a great day in the history of immortal Egypt.

We went through difficult years and hard days in which we faced all forms of suffering, because the genuine Egyptian cannot smile while his land is under occupation, be happy while his will is shackled, or be secure while the national interest is being threatened. However, we proved in the end that Egypt is dear and strong in its sons, mighty in its dignity and pride, and proud of its martyrs. We achieved this great victory by virtue of our firm belief, our adherence to right and our maintenance of the unity of ranks and readiness for sacrifice.

To every one of you, to the soldier in his trench, the farmer in his field, the worker in his factory, the teacher in his class, the scientist in his laboratory, the worshiper in his place of worship, the mother in her home and the artist in his studio -- to you all I convey sincere, hearty congratulations. You were great in your rejection of the defeat and determination for liberation. You were strong in your struggle in the battle of war and peace. You were generous in your contributions without limit. You were wise in your view and absorption of the lessons of history, and through it you realized that the path was still long and that much work lay ahead of us because the challenges of peace are no less fierce than the challenges of war. You also realized that we have no choice and must prove that the ingenuity of the people matches the ingenuity of the place. May God grant us success, and peace and God's blessings be upon you.

MUBARAK CONGRATULATES CITIZENS ON SINAI RECOVERY

NC251212 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1148 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) --In a statement to journalists today, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak addressed his greetings to the Egyptian people and congratulated them on recovering the remaining part of the Sinai.

In his statement, President Mubarak said: I seize this opportunity to congratulate the Egyptian people -- and congratulations to all of us. This postliberation stage requires all of us to exert efforts and double our work so that our standard may raise to the level we cherish for the people of Egypt.

MUBARAK, BEGIN MAKE JOINT TELEVISION ADDRESS

NC251507 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin addressed messages to the Egyptian and Israeli peoples in a joint television program to be broadcast this evening on the occasion of the Sinai's return to Egypt and the completition of the Israeli withdrawal.

The following is the text of President Husni Mubarak's message: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Peace be with all of you in Egypt and Israel and in every place where man lives. Peace be with you in your historic march for the sake of the most noble objectives and in your struggle for a better life.

God has chosen this land to be the cradle of the divine religions, a place for tolerance and creative coexistence among nations and peoples that have a common history since the era of Abraham, may peace be with him, and that have a common interest in achieving security, stability and prosperity.

The Egyptian people are proud that throughout their history they have been in the forefront of the forces that love peace and reject aggression. Fate has destined them with a noble and civilized mission -- the mission of construction and building, spreading science and knowledge and building bridges of love and friendship among peoples. When the late President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat embarked on his courageous historic initiative, he expressed an overwhelming popular will which continued to generate a huge momentum toward peace that was necessary to turn a dream into a concrete fact and hopes into a tangible reality that we feel and add to every day.

It was clear that the Israeli people shared with us the faith in peace and the zeal for achieving it. Therefore, we were able to conclude the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty, which represents a very important turning point and an event with positive implications for the future of the area.

The peace treaty represents an important step on the road to a comprehensive peace, the good effects of which will extend to all parts of the Middle East. It sets a good example for good neighborly relations and cooperation between Israel and its neighbors on the basis of mutual respect and preservation of legitimate rights. We will have to make additional efforts in the future to cultivate the peace process, open new horizons for contact and communication and strengthen the confidence of the coming generations in a better future.

The Egyptian people, who, for the sake of right and the homeland, sacrificed over 100,000 martyrs and over 100 billion Egyptian pounds, are bypassing the past and looking to the future with hearts full of hope. They want to put an end to pain and suffering in the area. They have determined that the October war was the last war. They bless the pledge that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and I have made to preserve peace forever. They greet the Israeli people, who have accepted the challenge of peace and participated in making the future. They appreciate the sincere assistance which the friendly peoples have given to the peace process, above all the American people.

Former President Jimmy Carter played an historic role that will not be forgotten. He was followed by President Reagan, who has given the peace process a lot of thought, effort and attention.

In the coming stage we will have to fulfill the hopes that millions everywhere are pinning on our vanguard experiment.

We must prove the peoples' hope in peace and their confidence in the future.

We must strengthen the channels of communication and increase the mutual understanding between the two peoples.

We must every day win more followers and supporters of peace through good work, wise exercise and calculated steps.

Tomorrow a new dawn will break and the banners of peace will rise forever.

May God's peace, mercy and blessing be with you.

The following is an Arabic translation of the statement [Israeli Prime Minister] Menahem Begin made in Hebrew:

Some 3 years have elapsed since we exchanged the instruments of ratification of the peace treaty. The Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty was signed by the late President as-Sadat and myself. U.S. President Carter signed it as a witness.

Israel has made many sacrifices for this peace treaty. I do not intend to enumerate these sacrifices, because they are all on the map. Every one of us, whether Egyptian, Israeli, American, British or French, (?can) see these sacrifices with his own eyes. The important thing is that President as-Sadat and I had each extended his hand to the other and said: No war after today, no bloodshed after today but peace forever.

On the evening of President as-Sadat's funeral, I visited the house of President Mubarak, who succeeded him as leader of Egypt. Each of us extended his hand to the other and almost simultaneously uttered the following words: Peace forever. This is the important thing. The two peoples must coexist not only in peace but also in good neighborliness, friendship and cooperation. Also, we can help each other in all economic, social and cultural fields. Let us do that in the future.

We were destined to fight five wars in which many of our children were martyred and many others were disabled. When the disabled in the two countries, Egypt and Israel, met, they embraced and kissed each other and reiterated what President as-Sadat and I had said: No bloodshed after today and forever, no war after today. This is the good tidings.

MUBARAK SENDS CABLE TO BEGIN ON SINAI WITHDRAWAL

NC252305 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2232 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has sent the following cable to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin on the occasion of the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai:

At this historic moment, I would like to send Your Excellency and the Israeli people greetings for th steps you have made on the road to peace. The completion of the withdrawal from the Sinai will open a new chapter in the history of our relations and will pave the way for increasing and deepening cooperation between our peoples in various fields.

During our meeting in Cairo, we pledged to work strongly and tirelessly to serve the cause of peace forever. We will continue to build bridges of confidence and strengthen the building of peace in the future until we achieve it. We will continue to work together to expand the sphere of peace and to fulfill our commitment toward a comprehensive and just settlement in accordance with the Camp David accords. We are looking to the future with hope and optimism.

I am sure that through your wisdom and vision, we will be able to overcome all difficulties and to create a radiant example for all the countries of the area. This is our historic mission that we will achieve with all determination and hope. Our people will always remember your personal contribution. With my sincerest wishes.

MUBARAK SENDS CABLE TO REAGAN ON WITHDRAWAL

NC252250 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2228 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has sent a cable to U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the occasion of the completion of the Israeli withdrawal. The following is the text of the cable:

On the occasion of the completion of the Israeli withdrawal, I would like to send Your Excellency and the American people heartfelt feelings of appreciation and gratitude. The role you have played to reach this positive development will always remain in the memory of the Egyptian people. Through your vision and wisdom, you have proven that the United States is a great partner who has been committed to the peace cause.

We are looking forward to working together in the days to come to complement the mission to which we committed ourselves when we signed the Camp David agreements. There are still other (?steps) that must be taken to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East. I have no doubt that you will continue to undertake an effective role until our mission is accomplished.

The Egyptian people are following with complete satisfaction the steady cooperation and development between our two peoples and countries. We will not spare any effort in our march to deepen this cooperation in our common interest and in the interest of world peace. With my best regards.

'ALI SAYS PEACE NOT MERE LEGAL COMMITMENT

NC241536 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has issued a statement on the occasion of tomorrow's celebrations of the completion of the withdrawal from the Sinai. He said the peace the Egyptian leadership and people believe in is not a mere limited, legal commitment to an agreement or treaty. Rather, to us peace means that justice will prevail and that the horrible flow of blood and energy will stop. The peace we are working and struggling for is just and comprehensive, an indivisible whole, and is not imposed by force.

'Ali said we must look forward to the day when the canopy of peace will spread over the whole area. This can be achieved only by guaranteeing the natural [at-tabi'iyah] legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He said that what has been achieved so far increases the confidence that the peace march will continue on its course and that 25 April will always be a steppingstone for a new form of relations among the states and peoples of the Middle East and a new phase for establishing security, peace and prosperity for all peoples of the world.

'ALI ON AUTONOMY TALKS, SINAI WITHDRAWAL

NC241430 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali declared at an international press conference attended by representatives of the Egyptian and international information media that after 25 April Egypt will continue its efforts for the Palestinian cause and will go ahead with the autonomy negotiations in order to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

He said: I think the alleviation of the suffering, the coexistence between Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the Israelis, and the maintenance of the cease-fire in Lebanon -- all of this will create a climate for constructive moves in the future.

He added: We have waged four wars for the sake of the Palestinian cause. We also embarked on the peace battle for its sake. We shall continue in the autonomy negotiations for its sake also. We have never abandoned the Palestinian people at any time, and we shall not do so after 25 April.

In reply to questions by some Arab correspondents -- who, it has been noticed, have come to Egypt and to this press conference for the first time -- 'Ali said that as Egypt announced before, its doors are open to all Arab states, and Egypt has no conditions for the Arabs' coming to it. But it also does not accept any conditions from them for returning to Egypt.

'Ali was asked: How do you explain Israel's continuation with the autonomy negotiations while it is expelling the legitimate mayors of the West Bank? He replied: We have repeatedly demanded and have stressed the importance of confidence-building measures between the Israelis and the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and we shall continue to do so. This is our position.

Asked to comment on the apprehension felt by some people that Israel may invade Lebanon after the withdrawal, and whether this apprehension is justified, 'Ali said: I do not think the withdrawal from the Sinai inevitably means Israel will carry out an operation on the Lebanese front. This is my strong belief, because all that can be said here is that adherence to the cease-fire in southern Lebanon is the decisive factor.

He added: The violation of the cease-fire by any side is regrettable. This is our position, and it is in line with the recent Security Council measure.

Asked about the situation after the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai and its effect on the Arab arena, particularly the Lebanese arena, 'Ali said that in the Lebanese arena much depends on two factors: The first pertains to autonomy and its success, and the second depends on the continued maintenance of the cease-fire in Lebanon. Much depends on these two factors as to what will happen in the Lebanese arena.

Asked whether Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Al'alawi's recent visit to Egypt means the beginning of Arab contacts, 'Ali said this visit was within the framework of the constant consultations between the Sultanate of Oman and Egypt.

Asked what happened during the political meeting held today to discuss the new ideas agreed upon yesterday among the three parties -- Egypt, the United States and Israel -- 'Ali said: No comment.

Asked whether there are still difficulties concerning the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai, 'Ali said: There are no difficulties concerning the Israeli withdrawal from the remaining part of the Sinai. However, the remaining points concern some border points, including Tabah, and are still the subject of talks between the two countries.

We have previously agreed on certain principles concerning the Tabah problem, which include Israel's military and civilian withdrawal from the disputed area, the advance of the Egyptian authorities to the border of the disputed area and the stationing of the multinational force in the disputed area on which negotiation will take place in accordance with Article Seven of the peace treaty. The talks are continuing between the two governments.

Asked if there is a possibility that a solution will be reached before tomorrow, 25 April, 'Ali said: There is a possibility.

In answer to another question, 'Ali said: In accordance with the principles agreed upon between the two sides concerning the outstanding points, withdrawal will take place to Egypt's international border, Egypt will advance to the border of the [disputed] area and the multinational force will be stationed in the disputed area. He said that all the details are under discussion and that he has no comment on this.

In answer to a question, 'Ali said: All the differences that have existed between Egypt and Israel in the past 2 weeks have been solved through the implementation of the treaty. There is a firm desire and determination to implement the treaty in a good way.

He added: President Husni Mubarak's recent letter to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin affirms Egypt's commitment to implement the treaty and the Camp David agreements concerning the continuation of the autonomy talks. Moreover, I believe the Israeli withdrawal will in itself be considered a good sign for implementing the treaty and will create a good atmosphere in our country that will give momentum to normalization in the coming months and years.

Asked by an Israeli journalist to comment on what is happening in Yamit, 'Ali said: We have noticed the difficulties the Israeli Government has faced in this connection. I know you have lost twice; the first time when you built it, and the second time when you demolished it without being able to sell it to us. We were ready for this. We know why you demolished it and did not sell it to us.

Asked to comment on what had been attributed to Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada who reportedly said that even if the autonomy talks fail, and even if Israel annexes the West Bank, peace will continue, 'Ali said: I do not comment on something that I have not read. I have asked our ambassador to provide me with the text of his statement.

'Ali said the raising of the Egyptian flag in Rafah and Sharm ash-Shaykh by the governors of Sinai is considered an important and very fruitful event.

He added that is is also important on this day to visit the unknown soldier's monument and the grave of the late President Anwar as-Sadat, who represents an important landmark on this day. I think these celebrations are in line with our previous decision that they should be simple. What interests us here is the withdrawal. We want to maintain calm on this day. The Egyptians are advancing, and the Israelis are withdrawing. We want feelings to be as calm as possible.

In reply to another question on the significance of 25 April, 'Ali said: As I told you, we consider 25 April a normal day. But at the same time, we consider it a good sign regarding the strengthening of relations between the two countries and the normalization between them. We will also go ahead with our talks on autonomy, and on this basis it will be possible to create a new atmosphere in the area conducive to the achievement of peace after 25 April.

Asked whether it is possible to achieve a solution to the remaining points of difference only several hours before the final withdrawal date, 'Ali said: We hope so.

Asked to comment on Egypt's recent decision to waive the requirement for entry visas into Egypt for Arabs from 14 Arab states, 'Ali said this decision was issued 3 weeks ago and like other tourists, Arab citizens are welcome in Egypt. They represent a large percentage of the tourists who come to Egypt.

Asked about the U.S. role in solving the pending problems, 'Ali said: I believe the presence in the area of U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Walter Stoessel and his remaining here for 2 weeks is a good affirmation that the United States is a full partner and is participating in and playing an important role in narrowing the gaps and differences that appeared in the past few days. He continued: We welcome this U.S. role.

Asked if the Tabah issue is among these differences, 'Ali said: Definitely, they include Tabah.

In answer to another question, 'Ali said: We have repeatedly said there are points still under discussion.

Asked about the position Egypt will adopt should Israel overrun Lebanon or annex the West Bank, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: We have repeatedly announced our views on this.

Asked why most of the celebrations that will be held on the occasion of the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai are military, 'Ali said: These celebrations have nothing to do with military affairs; rather, they have to do with the symbol represented by sovereignty.

Asked about the different views between Egypt and Israel regarding autonomy and whether it will be possible to solve the problem without the Palestinian organization, 'Ali said: We do not consider autonomy the final solution, but as an arrangement for a transitional period ranging from 3 to 5 years aimed at easing the suffering of the people of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He said that through this [words indistinct] a suitable atmosphere could be created to solve the problem in the future through negotiations. This is what we are seeking and is the basis of the Camp David accords.

Asked about Egypt's views on the resumption of diplomatic relations between a number of African countries and Israel, 'Ali said this depends on the OAU's decision, and Egypt is one of many members of this organization.

Attending the press conference in addition to the foreign correspondents were a considerable number of Arab correspondents.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE RELEASES STATEMENT ON SINAI

NC241638 Cairo MENA in English 1355 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) -- The People's Assembly Arab Affairs Committee today expressed deep satisfaction over the completion of the final Israeli withdrawal from Sinai in implementation of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

The committee, in a statement today, said that if the October 6 embodies a luminous landmark on Egypt's path of struggle, the April 25 is the fruit of this struggle.

April 25 will continue to be a prominent turning point in the history of the struggle of the Egyptian people and will represent the crowning with success of the Arab will, the statement added.

The statement urged the need to unify Arab action and efforts, with a view to complete the peace march in a way that would restore up to the hilt the Arab right.

Egypt will continue the peace process until the Palestinian people achieve their right to self-determination and setting up their state on their national soil in the West Bank, Gaza and Arab Jerusalem, the statement added.

ABU GHAZALAH ADDRESSES MESSAGE TO ARMED FORCES

NC251231 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] AL-AHRAM highlights the message of Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah to the officers and men of the armed forces on the occasion of the completion of the withdrawal from the Sinai. In this message he says: The return of the Sinai to the homeland started at noon on 6 October 1973, when you crossed the canal to Sinai. He adds: Our forces will continue to be as ready in peace as they were in war. They will be ready to give any sacrifice for the dearly beloved homeland, developing their capabilities and efficiency through ceaseless training and full readiness to any emergencies.

CAIRO PRESS COMMENTS ON SINAI WITHDRAWAL

NC250808 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 25 Apr 82

[From the press review]

[Text] The reports on the celebration of the triumph of the will for peace by Egypt -- its government and people -- are the theme of the banner headlines of three Cairo newspapers published this morning.

In its place of prominence on page 1 today, the newspaper AL-AHRAM says that today, Sunday, 25 April, Egypt -- its government and people -- will celebrate the triumph of the will for peace when, at 1330, Egypt's flags will be raised over Rafah, Sharm ash-Shaykh and over the entire Sinai which Egypt has recovered and through which Egypt will again exercise its full sovereignty over all its national soil.

At the same time, the paper notes that on this historic day, President Husni Mubarak will make a speech to the Egyptian people to be broadcast on television and radio.

Then, accompanied by the commanders of the armed forces, the president will proceed at noon to Martyrs Square to lay flowers on the mausoleum of the departed leader, Anwar as-Sadat, and on the unknown soldier's cenotaph, as a gesture of gratitude to, and in appreciation of, the memory of those who have struggled to achieve this moment of victory. The president will then preside over a meeting of the Armed Forces Supreme Council.

In an article, AS-SIYASI deals with the celebration marking the return of the remaining land of the Sinai. AS-SIYASI says: Today, full Egyptian sovereignty will be restored in the Sinai, thus ending the pain of 15 years of occupation during which Egyptians lived under the control and hegemony of the Israelis and under their expansionism and outdated security theories.

Today, peace returns to the peninsula which has lived a long life, offering itself as the victim. Today, history will say its word which has long been awaited. This is what has happened today. Here, on the land of the Sinai, the Egyptians emerged and lived their lives. It is to the Sinai that the Israelis came and it is from the Sinai that they will depart.

Contrary to expectations, the Israelis have proved that they can assume responsibility, honor their pledges, and discard their old methods. This in itself is progress which must be noted in the behavior pattern [masirat] of the Jews in particular. It must also be studied and analyzed in order to find and know its roots.

AS-SIYASI says: There can be no doubt that today's evacuation signifies a victory for the peace process which began its march in November 1977. This evacuation generates more confidence in the pledges which the Israelis make and inspires the possibility of continuing with the negotiations in a way which would ensure an overall peace for all the residents of the area, not only before the Egyptian decisionmakers but also before the Arab leaders, which still view with great suspicion the intentions of Israeli negotiators.

Today's departure poses an important challenge to the Israeli negotiators: Just as the Israelis have believed in Egypt's right to its territory, it is also imperative that the Israelis recognize the Arabs' legitimate rights, because this is the path of peace.

In concluding its article, AS-SIYASI says: It remains for us to put on record the real value of the evacuation of the Sinai. Along with this evacuation, one can view the future with great optimism. We can expect calm and stability. We can pin our hope on a better future in which mankind will live in happiness and prosperity, far from the destruction and ruination wrought by war. This is the real value of peace.

On the same subject, and in its article "Opinion," the newspaper AL-AHRAM says: It is imperative that every patriotic Egyptian feel loyalty and gratitude in his heart today for the man whose protracted national struggle was concluded with the agreement of the [Sinai] evacuation. It is even possible to say that the whole of As-Sadat's era was dedicated to the two processes of war and peace -- from the beginning of his assumption of office until he left us on the day marking the victory anniversary.

As-Sadat did not live to pick the fruit of the tree he planted as a seed and which he nurtured, giving it all his attention. However, As-Sadat was preparing himself for this memorable day in the hope that, afterward, he could relinquish office in full satisfaction, leaving for his successor other burdens and tasks which, in their turn, also require of men determination, strength and planning of no less importance than that required by the battle of war and peace. We are confident that As-Sadat's soul is now with Egypt, with the souls of the other martyrs, and even at the head of a great group of commanders and leaders who have been produced by the soil of this homeland, and who have been made by the strength of its sons and whose minds and will have been tempered by a civilization dating back thousands of years. Together with this soul, we all witness and bless these historic moments.

We urge everyone to make these moments a luminous sign for the long procession, a springboard for tackling domestic problems and a great leap forward toward the greater horizons of the future of glory, prosperity and advancement.

The paper adds: Just as loyalty is one of our noble characteristic traits, it is imperative that every Egyptian -- on this unique occasion -- reconsider the struggle of As-Sadat, derive inspiration from his sincere patriotic stances, do justice to his renown against malicious talk, learn lessons from his life and place him in his appropriate place of prominence in light of the reality which every Egyptian can tangibly hold in his hands, after it had been an almost impossible dream.

AL-AHRAM says in conclusion: Stances make men. Likewise, men make stances and acquit their conscience before God and homeland. Regardless of their absence, they are always present in the glory of their country and in the hearts and minds of their compatriots.

With regard to hoisting Egypt's flags over all the Sinai, the newspaper AL-AKHBAR says: Today, Egypt's flag will wave over the Sinai. At the moment the flag of freedom and dignity is raised over northern and southern Sinai, President Husni Mubarak will be visiting the tomb of departed President Anwar as-Sadat in appreciation of his heroism, in glorifying his greatness, in gratitude for his actions for his homeland and nation, and in loyalty for a man who has occupied a place in history. It is impossible for us to mention the Sinai without mentioning an unforgettable hero to whom Egypt will be indebted throughout its history.

AL-AKHBAR adds: Today is the day of the Sinai's liberation. On this day of liberation, whose sun rises over the homeland to dignify it, and whose glory manifests itself to the world, it is ineluctable for us to stand and salute the heroic commander and the great leader who had begun the battle of liberation and who had followed its footpath toward victory. His first step in that battle was that historic decision to make the crossing [of the Suez Canal] and his last step in that battle was one taken on the path of peace -- the last step epitomized in today's withdrawal.

Today we will raise the flag of liberation over the Sinai. We will raise this flag in saluting the immortal leader who had made the battle of victory and who had formulated the peace plan. This is what President Husni Mubarak meant by insisting on visiting the immortal hero at the very moment when the flag of liberation is raised over the Sinai. This is the duty of loyalty and gratitude which President Mubarak will discharge on his own behalf and on behalf of all the sons of this people. Today, as we receive the Sinai upon its return to the motherland, and as we glorify a free and dignified land through this return, we entrench this return as a foundation for the peace in which Egypt -- its people and leaders alike -- has believed.

The paper says: We will not relent in our efforts to continue traversing the full distance. Egypt is committed to continuing the autonomy negotiations. Furthermore, Egypt does not consider these negotiations the final solution to the Palestinian issue. However, these negotiations are interim measures aimed at ending the sufferings of the Palestinian people. Therefore, it is possible for us to say that total withdrawal from the Sinai will always be the premise for a new form of relations among states in the Middle East, and a new phase geared to achieving security, peace and prosperity for all peoples in this area.

PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON GULF WAR, SYRIAN MEASURES

JN251840 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has asserted that Iraq was and will remain the stronghold facing Iran's designs and expansionist policy at the expense of Arab rights. During his meeting at noon today with a number of editors in chief of Kuwaiti newspapers and magazines who are currently visiting Iraq, President Saddam Husayn said: We will not allow any side, be it Iran or anyone else, to humiliate our people, army and land or any Arab land.

The president explained that victory is something visible to us before it occurs. We expect victory and view it this way because it is a part of our will and exists in the hearts of the Iraqis and in the heart of every Arab in any place when he is granted the same circumstances. His excellency said that today Iraq is pursuing a special building process, a process integrated in all its moral, material, economic, cultural, social, and military aspects. The president said obstructing the building process at a time when opportunities are available is a waste of time, adding that man cannot fight with slogans. He said Iraqis have been fighting for almost 20 months, because they are armed with the new conditions that prevailed after the revolution.

His excellency explained the Iraqis are fighting and planning for the future, adding that the continuous building process must be protected by the Iraqis. He said: We must fight as long as we possess arms, because the current situation means either we fight or we surrender to the Iranian designs. His excellency said this situation affects not only Iraqis but all Arabs, because the Iranian designs will not stop at Iraq's border. We must, therefore, fight until the last bullet and last drop of blood.

President Saddam Husayn said the Syrian rulers are mistaken if they think that stopping the oil flow will demoralize the Iraqis' will, stand and faith in their principles. Rather, this Syrian step has increased their faith in strengthening their role in building and war.

The president expressed his admiration for the Kuwaiti media, asserting that Kuwaiti newspapers reflect the conscience, feelings, and responsibility of the Arab man toward the events that are taking place in the Arab arena and toward the Iraqi-Iranian war in particular. His excellency said the Iraqis are proud of Kuwaiti newspapers that express Arab responsibility toward the Arabs and their noble stands on Iraq in its just war against the Iranian enemy.

In his answers to questions from Kuwaiti editors, the president touched on the current Arab situation in general and the repercussions of the Iraqi-Iranian war on Arab reality.

The meeting was attended by Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, secretary general of the Revolution Command Council and acting director of the president's office, and Latif Nusayyif Jasim, information and culture minister and director of press and information in the president's office.

SYRIAN HELICOPTER VIOLATES AIRSPACE 25 APRIL

JN251758 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Apr (INA) -- According to an Iraqi military source, a Syrian military helicopter entered Iraqi airspace today north of Mamlaha Taoera and penetrated Iraqi territory to a point 15 to 20 km west of Al Hadr in northwestern Iraq.

In a statement to INA this evening, the source said the Syrian military aircraft entered Iraqi airspace at 1112, continued its northward flight inside Iraqi territory for a distance of 5 km and then returned to Syrian territory at 1140 at a point north of the Iraqi border post of Al-Nahr Khabur.

This is the third violation of Iraqi airspace in 2 weeks. Syrian military aircraft violated Iraqi airspace on 12 and 13 April in Abu Kamal in western Iraq and Sinjar in northeastern Iraq.

IBRAHIM, 'AZIZ, 'ALWAN DEPART ON ROUND OF TALKS

JN250929 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0835 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Apr (INA) -- Three ranking Iraqi officials left Baghdad today as envoys to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan and Guinea for talks on the Iraqi-Iranian war and the current Arab situation.

'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman, left for Saudi Arabia as President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy to Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Tariq 'Aziz, RCC member and deputy prime minister, left for Kuwait on the first leg of a tour that will also take him to Jordan. Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs, left for Conakry with a written message from President Saddam Husayn to Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure in his capacity as chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee.

INA has learned that 'Izzat Ibrahim will meet with Saudi officials and discuss bilateral relations, the Iraqi-Iranian war and the situation in the Arab region.

In a predeparture statement, 'Izzat Ibrahim told INA that his visit to Saudi Arabia comes within the framework of coordination and consultations with the Arab brothers on fateful issues.

Tariq 'Aziz said he will meet with Kuwaiti and Jordanian officials and discuss bilateral relations, the Iraqi-Iranian war and the situation in the Arab region.

INA has also learned that the message Hamid 'Alwan will deliver to the Guinean president deals with the Islamic Good Offices Committee's mission and efforts to settle the dispute with Iran in conformity with Iraq's stand and readiness to establish peace in the region through a peaceful solution to the region's problems.

AL-MAJALLAH: NEW, SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS RECEIVED

PM231529 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 24-30 Apr 82 pp 10, 11

[From "AL-MAJALLAH Envoys" feature]

[Text] Well-informed diplomatic sources have revealed that Iraq recently received new and highly sophisticated weapons and military hardware through a deal a certain Arab country concluded with the international supplier concerned. Well-informed Iraqi sources said the arrival of these weapons greatly enhances Iraq's military capability and strengthens the counterattack Iraq is expected to launch against Iran if the new round of mediation fails.

Iraqi sources have said relations between Baghdad and Washington could be restored to normal at any time now and that the two capitals are awaiting a suitable time for the announcement after agreement on this step has been reached. Belgium looks after U.S. interests in Baghdad in the absence of official relations, while India looks after Iraq's interests in Washington. Washington and Baghdad had earlier agreed on treating the heads of the missions in the two capitals as ambassadors.

SOVIET ENVOY CLAIMS U.S. BACKED ISRAELI RAID

NC241306 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus received today Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov, who visited Butrus Palace [Foreign Ministry premises] at the request of his government. Foreign Minister Butrus then received U.S. Ambassador Robert Dillon.

Following the meeting, the Soviet ambassador told newsmen: We exchanged views on the situation in Lebanon at the request of the Soviet Government. He added that the Soviet Union denounces and condemns the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance.

Ambassador Soldatov said: The Soviet Union places its potential on the side of the Lebanese Government to submit a draft resolution to the UN Security Council condemning the aggressive Israeli policy. He added: The Soviet Union believes that at this stage the Security Council must adopt decisive measures to prevent Israel from attacking Lebanon.

Asked whether the fact that there was no retaliation against the Israeli raid rules out the possibility that Israel may attack Lebanon again to implement its plans, Soldatov said: The Soviet Union believes that what Israel did was inexcusable. Moreover, what Israel has done in the past was not an outcome of [word indistinct]. In this case, Lebanon and the Palestinians have the right to self-defense in accordance with the UN Charter. However, the self-restraint Lebanese and Palestinian officials have shown in these circumstances and following the recent Israeli raid shows a spirit of responsibility toward maintaining peace in this area. This is further proof that the aggressor in this area is Israel and the Israeli Government, which enjoys U.S. support. We believe that everyone must do their utmost to stop Israel from launching aggressive acts against Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance. The UN Security Council is among those who are called upon to act.

U.S. Envoy Denies Charge

NC241327 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Upon leaving [a meeting with Foreign Minister Butrus], U.S. Ambassador Dillon was asked to comment on the Soviet ambassador's statement that the Israeli raid on Lebanon occurred with U.S. consent. He said: This is absolutely not true. I have nothing to add to this. However, this statement does not fit with reality.

The U.S. ambassador added: Minister Butrus and I the situation in general. I have nothing to add to what I said on Thursday, when I told you that U.S. efforts are concentrated on restabilizing the cease-fire. Apparently, this is what is happening now.

Asked if Philip Habib will return to the area, the ambassador said: I have no information allowing me to imply that Mr Habib will return to the area.

AN-NAHAR: RAID WAS PRICE OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

PM260827 Beirut AN-NAHAR in Arabic 22 Apr 82 p 1

[Michel Abu Jawdah article: "Destroying the Cease-Fire in Return for Withdrawal"]

[Excerpts] What happened in Lebanon yesterday has revealed the truth of what is happening in Sinai and was a clear manifestation of the truth about Camp David and its objectives. While the Israeli Cabinet was affirming that the withdrawal from the Sinai will take place on time, Israeli planes were attacking Lebanon.

That is, peace on the Egyptian-Israeli front and war on the Lebanese-Israeli front, which means that there is no peace on the Egyptian-Israeli front but rather a completion of the measures that led to the Egyptian-Israeli peace, mutual recognition, negotiations, and the implementation of the Camp David provisions so that Egypt will remain outside the Arab-Israeli conflict. If what was happening on the Egyptian-Israeli border was peace, the Israeli planes would not have been attacking Palestinian positions in Lebanon.

In explaining the reasons for the Israeli raids it is not enough to say that Israel wanted to distract the Israeli people's attention from the dismantling of settlements in the Sinai or from seeing the army that occupied it 15 years ago using force in order to evict the settlers. While the Egyptian-Israeli war has stopped or come to an end as a result of Camp David, the Israeli-Palestinian war is continuing. Rather, this could have reached a critical point following the uprising in the occupied Arab territories. Here we see Israel deciding to implement the Camp David accords and evacuating the Sinai without winning its war with the Palestinians. What makes Lebanon likely to be the major field of this war is the fact that it is difficult for Israel to achieve victory in the occupied Arab territories.

Israel is losing the Sinai and its Sinai card without winning the war against the PLO. In other words, it is giving Egypt back its occupied territory without Egypt giving it a victory against the Palestinians. It is true that Israel wanted peace with Egypt and wanted to penetrate what it calls the wall of enmity around it as well as to win recognition and "normalization" and to weaken Egypt. However, what it wanted most of all was victory against the Palestinians and to smash the PLO, something Israel has been unable to achieve either through its repeated aggressions on Lebanon or through the autonomy negotiations.

The Israeli aggression yesterday raises questions and fears. Has Israel decided to confront the Palestinians with two alternatives: Either war or the generalization of the cease-fire on all fronts, which means that it should not be restricted only to southern Lebanon. Obviously, the PLO does not accept the generalization of cease-fire and, therefore, war will take place although in different forms. The Israeli aggression raises questions about the cease-fire which, the United States stresses, should be maintained. Has Washington's role been confined to postponing the invasion for a few days or does Washington allow one form of aggression but does not approve of another?

As for Lebanon, what can it do? The Lebanese authorities can do nothing other than contacting foreign ambassadors to get them, in turn, to contact their governments. They have no choice other than going once again to the Security Council, despite the fact that recourse to the Security Council has not proven fruitful nor useful recently. The U.S. umbrella prevents the punishing of Israel and the best evidence of this is the U.S. use of the veto against the draft resolution which Morocco and Jordan submitted concerning the recent incident in Al-Aqsa Mosque. The question remains: Has the time come for an Israeli war against Lebanon, the Palestinians and Syria?

Awaiting the consequences of the Israeli attack, partricularly following the Lebanese complaint to the Security Council, it can be said that Begin has replied to U.S. insistence on total withdrawwal from the Sinai by destroying the cease-fire in Lebanon in the attainment of which the "U.S. protector" played a major role.

VOP REPORTS ISRAELI MILITARY MOVEMENTS

NC241232 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] The Zionist enemy continues to reinforce his forces inside the occupied border strip area in southern Lebanon, where these forces are being concentrated in the eastern and western sectors, particularly in the areas of Shab'a, Al-Habbariyah and (Tall al-'Aridah). This is in addition to the concentraiton of heavy vehicles in the hills overlooking Rashayya al-Wadi and al-Hasbani. Reports affirm that the enemy has sent about 30 fully equipped military vehicles to Yarin and another 15 vehicles to the Dahr al-Bayyadah area and the As-Sama' ridges. The enemy has also installed three long-range artillery batteries in the Ra's an-Naqurah Hanin area. These Zionist reinformcements coincide with the violations of the cease fire as represented in the continued overflights by enemy warplanes in Lebanon.

Arrivals from the village [not further identified] said that Israel and its agents want to take over the village and include it in the border strip area, but that the residents are rejecting this despite the acts of terroristm being exercised against them.

The regional political council of the Bint Jubayl area has denounced the collusion of the UN emergency forces and the factional army [the Lebanese Army] with the Haddad gangs and the Zionist enemy forces after the repeated demolition of houses and the assassination of citizens.

BEIRUT RADIO ON TRIPOLI CEASE-FIRE EFFORTS

Meetings Begin

NC231329 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] The NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY correspondent in northern Lebanon reports that clashes in Tripoli are taking place in An-Najmah Square, Al-Kurah Square and the old market area and that the sound of gunfire and explosions can be heard in various parts of the city. The [warring] parties that met this morning at the house of former Prime Minister Rashid Karami reached an agreement to stop firing, withdraw their gunmen, remove armed manifestations and cancel the state of alert. However, the agreement has not been implemented and contacts are now underway among the various parties to reach a new cease-fire agreement.

Clashes Cease

NC232030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Clashes in Tripoli ceased at 2000, and efforts continue to stabilize the cease-fire and implement the resolutions that were passed at a meeting held in the home of [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami. Internal Security Forces, in conjunction with all parties, will implement the agreement and will seek to restore calm and impose security in the city.

Agreement Reached

NC232139 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 23 Apr 82

[TExt] Internal Security Forces in Tripoli, in conjunction with the parties concerned, have begun to oversee the removal of armed manifestations and the withdrawal of armed men from the streets to lay the groundwork for the return of normal life to the city tomorrow morning.

The northern higher coordination committee held a second meeting this evening in the home of [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami, with Mr Karami in attendance, and agreement was reached on a cease-fire as well as on the removal of armed manifestations and the withdrawal of armed men.

Following the meeting, Prime Minister Rashid Karami stated: The higher coordination committee has worked to bring about a cease-fire and to remove armed manifestations to preserve the interests of the compatriots and save ourselves from the problems we are facing and which, if they continue, can serve no one other than the enemy. In light of the commitment made by all forces functioning within the coordination committee, we consider that the atmosphere that prevailed throughout our country has been dissipated -- God be praised. We also consider that this confidence and this cooperation are well entrenched and are continuing.

## Clashes Erupt

NC260925 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Bursts of gunfire were heard in the city of Tripoli a short while ago. There have been no reports of casualties.

A popular delegation in the city visited government house and met with Governor Iskandar Gabriel. The delegation demanded that the sovereignty of the state and its authority be applied in all parts of the city and that all party offices be closed. The governor said the concerned parties are still seeking to achieve this goal.

Since this morning, a general strike has been staged in Tripoli to protest the painful and bloody incidents that claimed the lives of innocent citizens.

In the meantime, security forces patrols are intensifying their presence in places where last week's clashes occurred. The commander of the security force, Brig Gen Yusuf Sallum, has stressed the need to set up security forces checkpoints and to inform him about any action that undermines stability in the city.

MEETING IN SOLIDARITY WITH SYRIA OPENS 24 APRIL

JN241542 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] A meeting in solidarity with the struggle of steadfast Syria organized by the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference and the International Secretariat in solidarity with the Arab people and their central cause, Palestine, was opened this morning. The meeting was attended by members of the two secretariats and the heads and members of delegations representing various Arab and international progressive parties, organizations, figures and liberation movements.

Brother 'Umar al-Hamidi, secretary general of the Arab People's Conference, opened the meeting with a speech which he began by extending the participating delegations' greetings and appreciation to the steadfast Syrian people under the leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad. He also praised the struggle of Syria -- the vanguard fortress of steadfastness and confrontation -- in its confrontation with imperialism and Zionism in defense of the Arab nation's honor and dignity. Brother al-Hamidi said: This meeting in solidarity with Syria comes at a time when the imperialist-Zionist onslaught has been escalated against our Arab nation in general and Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement in particular. He also asserted that the conflict in the Middle East concerns all progressive and democratic powers and that these powers are able to stand alongside Syria in confronting racist Zionist and imperialist expansion. At the end of his speech, he said he hoped this meeting would result in resolutions and recommendations that would achieve the desired objectives.

Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Ba'th Party National Command member, head of the Foreign Relations Office and chairman of the Ba'th Party delegation, then delivered a speech in which he conveyed to the conferees the greetings of the Ba'th Party and its secretary general, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad. He asserted that the progressive and liberation forces' stand alongside the Syrian Arab people's struggle is an encouraging factor as well as an incentive to continue the liberation battle. He added that Syria was destined to be in the first confrontation trench in defense of the Arab nation's pride and dignity. He indicated the imperialist and Zionist plots in the region that aim at striking at the liberation movements and at paralyzing their potentials in order to implement the hostile and expansionist plans. Comrade Haydar praised the fateful cohesion between Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement in the face of all forms of plotting, stressing that this cohesion would be the rock on which the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary plots founder.

He condemned the Iraqi-Iranian war that Iraq's executioner Saddam Husayn has fabricated against the Islamic revolution in Iran, a revolution that supported the Arab struggle for the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the triumph of the Palestinian cause. Comrade Haydar also condemned the treasonous Camp David accords, asserting that the Arab people in Egypt will not remain silent and that they will return Egypt to the Arab fold in order to resume the struggle until victory and freedom have been attained.

In conclusion, Comrade Haydar hailed the support the socialist countries, headed by the friendly USSR and international forces of progress and liberation, have extended to Syria's just struggle under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad.

'Abdallah Sa'adah, Lebanese Nationalist Movement representative to the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference, delivered a speech in which he stressed Israel's hostile nature and called on international forces, particularly democratic forces in Western Europe, to stand alongside the just struggle the Arab nation is waging against the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine in view of the fact that Israel represents a spearhead against the nations aspiring for freedom, progress and peace.

PLO representative Muhammad Zuhdi an-Nashashibi then delivered a speech in which he conveyed the greetings of the Palestinian revolution and the PLO Executive Committee to the conferees. He also greeted steadfast Syria under the leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad in its heroic stand with the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. He also called on all liberation forces to declare their support for the heroic and brave Syrian stand.

Statement Issued

JN251640 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1440 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Damascus, 25 Apr (SANA) -- The meeting organized by the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference and the International Secretariat in solidarity with the Arab people and their central cause, Palestine, issued a statement at the conclusion of its final session here today under 'Umar al-Hammidi, secretary general of the Arab People's Conference.

In their final statement, the conferees in Damascus -- who represent the Arab liberation movement and democratic and progressive forces throughout the world -- expressed their complete solidarity with Syria -- the people and leadership -- and reiterated their cohesion with it against the U.S.-Zionist-reactionary onslaught. The statement hails the upheaval of our brave people in the Golan, the West Bank and Gaza against repressive Zionist measures in the occupied Arab territories.

The statement asserts Syria's right to continue its struggle through all available means and expresses the conferees' confidence in Syria's ability, with the cohesion of the member states of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and the support and solidarity of Arab and international liberation movements, to continue confronting all imperialist and Zionist plans in order to achieve justice and peace in this strategic part of the world and thus guarantee international peace.

The meeting adopted a number of resolutions and recommendations calling for complete support for Syria's struggle against imperialist-Zionist aggression in all national and international forums and the media.

The resolutions call for the need to declare firm support for the upheaval of the Syrian Arab masses in the Golan against Israel, to acquaint the world with what is happening there and to condemn Zionist occupation of Syrian territory.

The resolutions also call for the need to declare complete support for the upheaval of the masses in the West Bank and Gaza, to condemn repressive Zionist measures against the Palestinian Arab people, to acquaint the world with what is taking place in the occupied Arab territories and to demand Israeli withdrawal from those territories.

The resolutions also assert the need to declare complete support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people and to call on all countries to recognize the organization in this capacity. They also call for support for the Lebanese Nationalist Movement in its struggle to safeguard Lebanon's Arabism and the unity of its territory and people as well as democratic life in it.

The conferees condemned continuous U.S. provocations and threats against the Libyan Jamahiriyah and plots against its people and revolution.

The final session began with speeches by the chief delegates of the PDRY, Cyprus, and WFTU, who stressed their support for the just and heroic struggle of the Syrian people under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad against all imperialist, Zionist and reactionary plots.

SOVIET OFFICIAL EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR SYRIA

JN252038 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Syrian television correspondent's interview, conducted in Arabic, with Adel Kurbanov, head of the Soviet delegation to the meeting of solidarity with the Syrian people, in Damascuss Damascus -- no date given; videotaped]

[Text] [Question] Mr Kurbanov, what was the purpose of your participation in the meeting of solidarity with the Syrian people?

[Answer] I would like first to thank you and Syrian television for enabling me to talk with you and to convey to you the feelings of friendship and amity the Soviet people harbor for the friendly Syrian people. I greet you and hail your steadfastness -- the steadfastness of heroic and revolutionary Syria, the Syria of Hafiz al-Asad. I came to Damascus to declare before everyone -- not just you, but the whole world, incldng our common enemy, Zionism, and behind it our common enemy, imperialism -- our complete solidarity with your struggle to regain the usurped Arab territory, to achieve the rights of the Palestinian Arab people and to vindicate the honor of the Arab nation.

I would like to say that it has become very clear to everyone that the savage onslaught by imperialism, Zionism and world reaction against Syria is also aimed at the Palestinian revolution and the Arabism of Lebanon. It is a prelude to an attack on the rest of the Arab world. In my opinion, Syria today is the frontline bastion of the whole Arab nation. In this bastion, the Syrian soldier stands alongside the Palestinian fedayeen and the Lebanese nationalist.

I believe it is the honorable duty of every Arab, no matter how far away he is, to give his full support to this bastion and its groups, which are, of course, revolutionary Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist forces.

With regard to the Soviet position, allow me to confine myself to President Hafiz al-Asad's statement: We and the world are accustomed to seeing the USSR justly stand by our side against aggression.

I would like to add that the USSR -- people and party -- has stood and will continue to stand beside the just Arab cause and on the side of the steadfast Syrian people. Thank you.

[Interviewer] Thank you.

SOVIET OFFICIAL REAFFIRMS SUPPORT AGAINST ISRAEL

JN252102 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, has hailed Syria's role in confronting imperialist plans and plots in the Middle East. In a press statement, Brutents reiterated his country's condemnation of Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights, describing it as fresh proof of Israel's aggressiveness which, in turn, reflects U.S. aggressiveness toward Arab rights.

Regarding the existing friendship and cooperation treaty between Syria and the USSR, Brutents affirmed that his country will faithfully carry out the letter and spirit of this treaty if Israel embarks on act of aggression in the region. Brutentsdenounced the strategic cooperation agreement between the Zionist entity and the United States, stressing that this agreement is essentially directed against the interests of the Arab people and international peace and security.

IDF COMPLETES EVACUATION OF SINAI PENINSULA

TA251030 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] The evacuation of the Yamit District has been completed. The IDF has completed the evacuation of 10 settlers of Hazar Hadar, who were found this morning near the former site of Moshav Diqla. Earlier, 200 members of the Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawal -- who had held prayers at the Sephardic synagogue in Yamit -- left the town. During the service, they declared the establishment of a political movement to retrieve the territories.

Meanwhile, the IDF has completed the transfer of Yeshiva Heser to the Gaza District. The commander of the Southern Command, Maj Gen Hayim Erez, toured Yamit and proceeded to tour along the international border down to Tabah. The commander of the evacuation, Brigadier General 'Oded, told our correspondent Shalom Oren that approximately 2,000 opponents to the withdrawal had been evicted and some 600 houses had been demolished in the course of the evacuation.

Our correspondent reports that a ceremony to lower the Israeli flag was not held at Yamit. Egyptians who arrived on the scene and local inhabitants are now hoisting Egyptian flags and the bedouin are flying white flags atop their huts and tents.

As of now, all Israelis have been evacuated from southern Sinai. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that at about 0800 this morning the Israeli flag was lowered in a ceremony held by the last soldiers of the Merhav Shlomo District base at Ofira, where a few buildings remain. In an order of the day to his soldiers, the commander of the district, Brigadier General Aharon stated: We are evacuating this area for the sake of the goal we have dreamed of and fought for hundreds of years, for our own sake, that of our sons and the coming generations.

A long caravan driving north was led by a military truck bearing the Israeli flag and a poster hung by the soldiers reading: We did not withdraw, we gave up for the sake up peace.

SHARON SAYS 'LIMIT OF CONCESSIONS' REACHED

TA250438 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] In an Order of the Day to IDF soldiers on the occasion of the Sinai evacuation, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon states that thus Israel has reached the limit of its concessions. Henceforth, Israel will turn to strengthening its security and reinforcing and consolidating settlements in the Golan Heights, Judaea, Samaria and Gaza; Israel is now stronger than ever and capable of ensuring its national aspirations. Israel will protect peace and the chances for its realization while soberly undertaking all the risks amid efforts to reduce those risks.

Defense Minister Sharon states that those who fell in Israel's wars brought about the chances for peace. Thanks to them, this time Israel is not withdrawing from the Sinai as in earlier times but it is evacuating it while demonstrating its desire for peace.

Sharon adds that there were people who predicted a war between brothers during the unprecedented act of uprooting settlements and fields and there were those who tried to instigate and incite. The IDF again, however, showed maturity and it carried out the evacuation without resorting to violence but with love and understanding for people in Israel for all the world to see. There are no holy guns or cannons.

Only human life, honor, security, freedom and well-being are sacred. Only an army that prevents a war between brothers may, in times of necessity, defeat its enemies. The ruins of Yamit are proof that there has never been another nation ready to suffer so much for the sake of peace.

According to Sharon, no Arab country has ever succeeded and will never succeed in destroying any Israeli city. It is just that Israel, with its own bare hands, was forced to destroy Yamit in order to fulfill the peace treaty on time, without shedding Jewish blood. It should be hoped that we will now restore peace within our nation, a peace which is most important in order to heal the wounds in light of the upcoming struggles.

CABINET DISCUSSES SINAI, YAMIT EVACUATIONS

TA251234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1155 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer within "Midday Newsreel" -- live]

[Text] The Cabinet session has just ended. The Cabinet discussed the various aspects of the evacuation of the Sinai and the Yamit District; several ministers made remarks on that subject. The Cabinet unanimously expressed its appreciation of the way in which the security forces carried out their job. It also discussed the dispute with Egypt over the demarcation of the border in the Cabinet's capacity as the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. It can only be said that an agreement has been reached on this matter and we will hear positive news on this subject within a few hours.

During the Cabinet session, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak phoned the prime minister. Both men talked and told each other that peace would prevail forever between the two countries. The Cabinet secretary reported about various letters and telegrams sent by the prime minister today. Let us listen:

[Begin Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor recording] The prime minister today sent a telegram to Mrs Jihan as-Sadat in which he said the following translated into Hebrew:

Dear Mrs as-Sadat,

Our hearts, Madam, go out this day to you and the children and grandchildren. Anwar as-Sadat of blessed memory should have been with us to see the glory of his effort to make peace and achieve reconciliation between the good peoples of Egypt and Israel. To prove that his memory has not died but it will live forever in the hearts of women and men of good will, we all have to work for the sacred cause: No more war, no more bloodshed; peace, salam, shalom between our nations. We embrace you our dear friend.

[Signed] 'Aliza and Menahem Begin

I will also read to you the letters which the prime minister sent today to the defense minister, the chief of staff and the commander of the Southern Command about the events in Yamit.

To the defense minister, dear Arik,

In your capacity as the defense minister you were entrusted with the mission to carry out the evacuation of the Yamit District of our citizens who had settled in the villages and the towns there, heeding the call of Israeli Governments. I am persuaded that since the establishment of the state 34 years ago, no Cabinet minister was ever entrusted a more difficult, painful, complex and sensitive mission. The government decided to fulfill its international commitment according to the peace treaty under proper conditions and not to shed blood.

You fully carried out this mission, thanks to the resourcefulness and the love of Eretz Yisra'el which have characterized you since you volunteered in your youth to fight for the sake of the Israeli people and Eretz Yisra'el. For a generation you commanded marvelous fighters in many battles and you led them to glorious victories, including the fighting, the Suez crossing, the dividing and surrounding of Egyptian forces which brought the Israeli Armed Forces 110 km from the Egyptian capital. [end recording]

The prime minister sent other warm letters and a particularly warm letter to the commander of the Southern Command, Maj Gen Hayim Erez, of which we will hear in our next programs.

REAGAN SENDS MESSAGE TO BEGIN ON SINAI WITHDRAWAL

TA251949 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1930 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] At the end of Prime Minister Begin's interview with NBC, U.S. President Reagan telephoned him and congratulated him on the great achievement upon completing the decisive part of the peace treaty with Egypt. The U.S. President noted that he is aware of the difficulties faced by the prime minister and that he cannot but be impressed with Mr Begin's determination and capability of withstanding things. President Reagan repeated his promise that the United States will stand beside Israel in the future.

AGREEMENT ON TABAH NEGOTIATIONS REPORTED NEAR

TA251516 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Israel and Egypt are about to sign an agreement on the Tabah issue. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports the details of the agreement: The situation in the area will remain unchanged and life will continue there as it does today. The two countries will appoint a committee, operating without deadlines, to discuss the location of the border. A guard station of the Multinational Force and Observers will be set up in the area and its members will be responsible for security matters. Our correspondent reports that Jerusalem is now awaiting the Egyptian reply and immediately upon its receipt the agreement will be signed simultaneously in both Jerusalem and Cairo.

Agreement Reached

TA260619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Early this morning, Israel and Egypt reached a final agreement [sikum sofi] on the solution of the problem regarding the demarcation of their border. Our political correspondent reports that late last night the Egyptians approved the agreement formulated with the assistance of the United States.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Walter Stoessel will leave for Cairo this morning and will later return to Jerusalem. The agreements will be signed by Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali in Cairo and the director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, in Jerusalem.

According to the agreement, Israel will retreat to the border as conceived by Egypt in the area of Tabah near Elat and the Egyptians will station their own police forces up to the point Israel conceives to be the border. In between, in the disputed zone, normal life will proceed without any time limitations. Israel and Egypt will set up a committee that will deal with the demarcation of the border. The United States will join the talks if requested to do so by both parties. A guard station of the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] will be established in the disputed zone and will be responsible for security arrangements in the area.

ANTIWITHDRAWAL ACTIVISTS FORM POLITICAL MOVEMENT

TA250816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] The opponents to the withdrawal from the Sinai have declared the establishment of a political movement called Shvut Yisra'el [Israel's Return]. The movement will strive to retrieve and settle in the territories and will compete with the NRP. The movement will be headed by MK Rabbi Hayim Druckman and Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Neriya. The declaration was made at the Sephardic synagogue in Yamit, where a group of antiwithdrawal activists headed by Rabbi Moshe Levinger of Qiryat Arba' had remained until today. A group of rabbis from Jerusalem was allowed to join them this morning along with many members of the Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawal, who infiltrated into the Yamit District overnight. According to the movement, some 350 people arrived there. The IDF spokesman said there are only 200 people involved.

Initially, they held a swearing-in ceremony near the monument in Yamit and later held a similar ceremony at the synagogue. In their oath, they vowed to return to Yamit -- which they called the holy city -- and to the settlements in the district. The ceremony at the synagogue was also attended by soldiers and police, who will hand the area over to Egypt and the Multinational Force and Observers at noon. After the ceremony, they retrieved the Torah scrolls, tore a piece of their clothing as a symbol of mourning and left in a caravan toward Kerem Shalom.

Settlements Established

TA251258 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Excerpt] The antiwithdrawal movement has set up a new political party called Shvut Yisra'el [Israel's Return]. They have set up a nucleus of three new settlements in the Qatif area of the Gaza Strip and have called them: 'Azmona, Avi Farhan and the Yamit Yeshiva.

EGYPT'S MURTADA INTERVIEWED ON FUTURE OF RELATIONS

TA230840 Jerusalem POST in English 23 Apr 82 p 18

[Interview with Egyptian Ambassador Sa'd Murtada by David Bernstein -- date and place not given]

[Text] Do you believe the Egypt-Israel peace is sturdy enough to withstand a lack of progress in the autonomy talks after Sinai is returned next week?

It is irrevocable.

Irrespective of what happens in the autonomy talks?

Irrespective of anything!

Even if it annexes the West Bank....

There is at least one man in Israel today who appears not to share the pervading sense of apprehension over the course of Israeli-Egyptian relations after the remainder of Sinai is restored to Egypt in just 48 hours time. Egypt's ambassador to Israel, Sa'd Murtada, professes to be absolutely convinced that the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel is permanent; that, if anything, it will flourish once Israel has demonstrated its good faith in returning every inch of Sinai on schedule. What is more, he believes, the peace treaty is virtually indestructible, capable of withstanding not only a continuing impasse in the autonomy talks, but also an Israeli invasion of Lebanon -- to say nothing of its outright annexation of the West Bank.

In an interview with the Jerusalem POST, on the eve of the withdrawal, Murtada was at pains to play down the significance of the final withdrawal from Sinai -- an event to many Israelis view with so much apprehension as a turning-point, for the worse, in Israeli-Egyptian relations.

"We look forward to what is after 25 April -- we do not look to the 25th any more," says Murtada. "That is more important to us." He points out that the withdrawal from Sinai could serve as an example for other Arab states, which would see what is achieved through peace: "Through war, through years of war, they didn't get anything. And this is what we have achieved." That, Murtade suggests, could "tempt them to come into the peace process." But he stresses, that this does not imply an active mediating role for Egypt in the Arab-Israel dispute: "We won't mediate. We just point out, and everyone can see for himself, that Egypt has achieved success through peace. And then it's up to them. They cannot place conditions on us, we cannot put pressure on them. But we can tell them: "See, this is what we have achieved, we have got the whole of Sinai back, we have good neighbourly relations with Israel."

He goes on to note that the Arab states, or at least some of them, are beginning to accept Egypt, notwithstanding its good relations with Israel -- and this, he says, represents "a significant change in their own attitude." "Before they boycotted everyone who had relations with Israel," Murtada says, "now they know that Egypt has relations with Israel, yet they will not boycott us." And this, he argues, is in itself "a defacto, indirect recognition of Israel."

Murtada makes it clear that Cairo is looking forward to a significant improvement in relations between Egypt and the rest of the Arab world after 25 April. "That is what we are trying to achieve," he says, "because we, Egypt, whether we like it or not, are part of the Arab world."

Having achieved peace with Israel -- "it is full, it is complete (I don't say it is perfection, but even between normal neighbours there is always something to complain about ...") -- Murtada notes that Egypt now seeks to pursue "a wider goal," a comprehensive peace in the area.

He will not go into detail about how Egypt proposes to go about expanding the scope of the peace process to include other Arab states. He does indicate, however, that he considers Egypt's success in blocking a move to condemn the Camp David accords at the non-aligned foreign ministers conference in Kuwait earlier this month as an example of the type of policy Cairo may be pursuing in the future to win acceptance for its peace policy in the region.

"This is a very difficult problem, and it will be solved," he says. "But it will take time. I cannot tell you tomorrow, next year, in three years -- it will take time." Murtada suggests that rather than fear an extension of the peace process to include other Arabs, Israel should welcome it. "If we succeed in bringing in more Arabs, this should help build Israel's confidence," he says, noting that Israel could not be expected to "accept a menace" to its security. In the event, however that "all the Arabs accept the existence of Israel, then there would be no menace... It would be like the situation witn Egypt, where, for example, the danger of war is excluded under the peace."

On normalization, Murtada counsels patience. "We believe in things going on gradually," he says. "Peace is like a beautiful plant, it needs time to grow before it bears fruit. We're going to water it. We're going to take care of it...

He notes that Egypt is already buying what it needs from Israel, stressing that it also has many other trade connections which could not be broken just to accommodate trade with Israel. He points out that "normalization" implies a normal rather than a special relationship between the two countries. Nevertheless, for purely geographic reasons, there are certain aspects of the relationship that could, perhaps, be described as in some sense "special."

For example, Israel is the only country with which Egypt will shortly be maintaining a regular bus service. And there are a few countries with which it has as many reciprocal flights: At present there are eight -- soon to be increased to 10 -- weekly flights between Cairo and Tel Aviv.

On the one-sided nature of tourism between the two countries, Murtada notes that Egypt is not a rich country and few of its citizens can afford the luxury of foreign travel. "When Egyptians do travel, usually to another Arab country, it is more often than not to look for a job," he says. For all that, he continues, "after 25 April the psychological barriers preventing some -- very few -- Egyptians from coming will fall, and I do expect more Egyptians to visit Israel. I have heard some people saying, I don't want to go to Israel as long as there is a single Israeli soldier on our soil..."

Murtada stresses Egypt's continued commitment to the search for a just solution to the Palestinian problem, which he describes as "the crux of the Arab-Israeli conflict." Nevertheless, he indicates that while pressing for "simultaneous and reciprocal recognition between Israel and the PLO," Cairo will try to seek such a solution within the framework of the Camp David agreement on autonomy," he says. "We pledged that before the 25th. After the 25th, we shall continue to negotiate on autonomy."

In the event that the autonomy talks make no more progress in the months ahead than they have over the past two largely barren years, Murtada insists that this will have no direct bearing on bilateral relations between the two countries. "The one is not tied to the other," he says. "At least, not directly. It may indirectly affect it, but very slightly. Nothing will change to detrimentally affect the relations. We will try to continue to discuss and if, God forbid, we fail -- well, what can we do?"

Murtada appears absolutely convinced about the robustness of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, which he describes as "irrevocable -- irrespective of anything." He is even convinced that is sturdy enough to survive something as drastic as an Israeli annexation of the West Bank, an eventuality he believes to be as unlikely as it is unwise. Annexation is not really a question, he says, "because Mr Shamir and all the responsible people in Israel have assured the Egyptian Government that they will never annex it, under any circumstances. And we believe that.

"If it is annexed, that would not be very wise anyway -- how many Arabs would you have in Israel if you were to annex?"

A more likely occurrence would be a massive Israeli invasion of bases in south Lebanon. And this, too, Murtada says, is unlikely to lead to a rupture in Israeli-Egyptian relations. "We are aware, and Israel has assured us on this point, that it will not strike unless Jewish blood is spilt, in which case it would have to react. This we can understand..."

Nevertheless, while the peace with Israel would survive such occurrences, Murtada stresses that this would not deprive Egypt of its "right as a friend, as a member of the United Nations to tell you what it believes." He draws a comparison with another friend of Israel -- the United States. They, too, "are very good friends of Israel, but sometimes they condemn you, sometimes they veto a condemnation, sometimes they abstain. "As a friend of Israel, we also will not forfeit our right to tell our friend Israel, in very peaceful terms, "You're wrong, we condemn this action, we think it is wrong." But that does not destroy the peace between us. That would be one of the clouds. There will always be clouds. But then there will be the sun..."

Murtada Comments on Interview

TA250801 Jerusalem POST in English 25 Apr 82 p 8

[Letter to the editor by Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada]

[Text] To the editor of the Jerusalem POST

Sir, -- In the interview "Faith in Peace" which you published on Friday, April 23, I expressed to your reporter, David Bernstein, my unshaken faith in an irrevocable peace after the complete withdrawal from Sinai on schedule. Yet the lead of the interview gives the reader the impression that I said Egypt will accept anything and everything to maintain peace. This is certainly not the case. My replies quoted later in the interview are more accurate.

To the question about autonomy, I said that lack of progress in these talks will indirectly affect bilateral relations between the two countries.

About Lebanon, my reply referred to the Israeli promise that no attack would be carried out unless provoked by the shedding of Jewish blood.

When asked about possible Israeli annexation of the West Bank, I recalled the assurances by high Israeli officials that no annexation of the West Bank or Gaza would take place under any circumstances.

Obviously, these statements differ from the categorical replies published in the lead of the interview. Sa'd Murtada, ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

JERUSALEM ARABIC DENOUNCES HABASH'S TACTICS

JN231549 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 23 Apr 82

["Observation" by Ya'qub Khazmah]

[Excerpts] The saying, "they deceived her when they described her as beautiful" aptly applies to Dr George Habash, who has called on Arab countries not to agree to Egypt's return to the Arab fold unless it disavows the peace treaty with Israel. How aptly this line of poetry applies to Dr George Habash. The praise he and his organization have received from some has led him to believe that he can impose his demands on Arab countries. He also has come to believe that he represents the Arab countries and knows their interests better than they do.

Egypt, the uncontestable leader of the Arab world, knows where its interests and those of the Arab countries lie. When Egypt decided to proceed on the course of peace and to respect the peace treaty it signed with Israel, it did so not as a unilateral step -- as some tendentious people who are hostile to peace have claimed -- but as an important step toward achieving comprehensive peace in the region.

Though the Arab countries severed their relations with Egypt because the latter signed a peace treaty with Israel, these countries will sooner or later return to the lap of the mother, Egypt, and will surely follow Egypt's steps by proceeding on the road to peace. The calls of Dr Habash and others, therefore, will continue to remain empty ones to which no one will listen.

HAMMER PROPOSES LAW TO PROTECT SETTLEMENTS

TA211738 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Apr 82

[Text] Minister Zvulun Hammer has proposed that the Cabinet initiate a law to ensure that settlements are not uprooted in the wake of possible negotiations in the future with neighboring countries. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the prime minister supports this proposal. Minister Hammer believes settlers should be assured that settlements will no longer be dismantled in order to prevent the impossible [as heard] experience Israeli society is undergoing these days.

SETTLEMENT OF JUDAEA, SAMARIA, GOLAN TO EXPAND

TA251548 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] The Ministerial Settlement Committee decided this afternoon, on the day of the final evacuation of the Sinai, to establish five new settlements in Judaea and Samaria, an urban center in the Golan and a communal settlement in the Ma'ale Addumim area. Our correspondent Tzvi Zerahya reports:

[Begin recording] As mentioned, the Ministerial Settlement Committee has approved the establishment of five settlements in Judaea and Samaria: Elqana D, Yaqir B, Elqana C, Gane Modi'in and Na'ale B. Deputy Agriculture Minister M. Kha'el Deqel explained to the committee that the establishment of these settlements is very important as they form a territorial continuity and expand the Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria. Concern was expressed that some individuals may fall into the trap of falisfied land deals. Hence, the mechanisms for checking land purchase permits in Judaea and Samaria will be tightened.

Moreover, the committee has approved in principle the establishment of an urban center in the Golan, at the (V Aset) intersection in the northern Golan Heights. The center will serve the settlement in the northern Golan and will be a communal settlement [yishuv qehilati] that will deal with services, industry, and tourism.

In addition, the committee has also approved the establishment of a new communal settlement called Ne'ot Addumim that will be located along the Alon road, between Ma'ale Addumim and 'Arad. This settlement has great strategic importance according to the ministers, who are members of the Ministerial Settlement Committee. [end recording]

SETTLEMENT PLAN ENVISAGES 70,000 JEWS IN W. BANK

TA231144 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 23 Apr 82 p 1

[Report by Mordekhay Barqay]

[Text] A settlement plan envisaging a Jewish population of 70,000 people in Judaea and Samaria within the next 3 years has been drawn by the Defense Ministry and the Zionist federation settlement department. The plan has been recently shown to selected groups, including potential settlers. The Jewish population in that area currently numbers less than 20,000 people.

In addition to the expansion and fleshing-out of existing settlements, the plan comprises settlement in areas in Judaea and Samaria where very few or no Jewish settlements have been established so far. These areas are: Ma'alot Hebron and Ma'on Karmel -- west and east of Hebron respectively; Ramot Binyamin and 'Anatot Qidron -- northwest and east-southeast of Jerusalem respectively; the (Ebal)-Gilbo'a area of the eastern slopes of the Samaria Mountains. Four of the 11 industrial centers in the plan are located in these areas.

The DAVAR correspondent has learned that some outposts recently manned by Nahal soldiers on unpaid service are located in places marked in the settlement plan.

In the Ma'alot Hebron area -- one of the main efforts of the plan will be aimed at this area -- there is currently only one Nahal outpost with several dozen people. The plan provides for the development of this region including the small observation posts established there -- Mizpe 'Adulam, Mizpe Guvrin, Mizpe Lakhish, Mizpe Lahav and others -- which will become settlements whose population will reach 800 people each within 3 years. This is one of the regions in Judaea where there is a continuing expansion of state-owned land.

The settlement plan pertains to four kinds of settlements: rural and communal settlements of 100 to 300 families; colonies [toshavot] of 200 to 500 families; boroughs [qiryot] of up to 10,000 families in the final stage of development; and towns. The rural and communal settlements are designed for socially and ideologically homogeneous groups of people (members of kibbutzim and moshavim are included in this category) willing to settle in far off and less sought after places who will in exchange be granted production means and vast aid from state resources. The settlements will actually be residential neighborhoods for people working in urban settlements within the green line, within driving distance. The boroughs will be both residential areas and centers of services and employment for the surrounding regional set-up. The few towns are designed to be the "capitals" of the regions.

The settlement of Ari'el in the Ma'ale Shomron area currently populated by 850 people is, according to the plan, scheduled to become the largest Jewish settlement in Judaea and Samaria. Colonies and other large rural settlements will include: Shave Shomron in the Menashe area (planned); Elon More (current population: 200) in the ('Ebal)-Gilbo'a area; Qarne Shomron (current population: 500); 'Imanu'el (planned) and Yaqir (current population: 100) in the Ma'ale Shomron area; Bet Arye (current population: 200) and Matityahu (planned) in the Ma'alot Binyamin area; 'Ofra (current population: 400) in the Psagot Binyamin area; and Giv'on (current population: 500) in the Ramot Binyaim area.

EYTAN COMMENTS ON IDF PRESENCE IN SOUTH LEBANON

TA221102 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Apr 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by Ze'ev Schiff]

[Excerpt] After the operation [Israeli air raid into Lebanon] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan and the chief of military intelligence, Yehoshu'a Sagi, explained the background and motives of the operation.

In reply to questions about whether the death of the IDF officer in southern Lebanon was the factor that impelled the decision and about how can the presence of our men in southern Lebanon be explained, Eytan said: "There is always a straw that breaks the camel's back. We have had four persons killed. As for the presence of the IDF in southern Lebanon, this is not new. We are helping the Lebanese, supplying them arms and other aid and it is only natural that as a result of these activities there are Israeli soldiers in the area controlled by Haddad."

GOVERNMENT'S 'BRINKMANSHIP' POLICY SCORED

TA230950 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Apr 82 p 13

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] What people were expecting would be done in Lebanon occurred the day before yesterday, 21 April, when air force planes struck terrorist bases north of southern Lebanon.

The reason for carrying out the strike could be found in events on the day of the Yamit evacuation when three of our people were wounded and one was killed by terrorist activity. This would have occurred sooner or later anyway because the forces urging action were waiting for some sort of move by the terrorists who are today stronger than ever before. Their opponents are only occupied with containment and their success in fact depends on the terrorists' moves. If the latter are active they at once weaken the ministers in favor of restraint and push them into a minority position. This process was going full speed ahead and had not yet reached its peak with the bombing the day before yesterday. There is no doubt that a certain type of terrorist activity against Israel will strengthen those among us who support more widescale military action and will guarantee the support of the prime minister for military moves to which the defense minister and chief of staff aspire.

With the bombing, Israel adopted a policy of brinkmanship. Some Israelis claimed that this was a move in reaction to infringements of the cease-fire, by an initiated action inside Lebanon. The Israeli move has a clear goal. The bombing is not only a reminder of what could follow it. The message given to the terrorists is: Accept our interpretation of the cease-fire, or at least the U.S. interpretation of the cease-fire agreement, or in the end you will find yourselves faced with a comprehensive Israeli offensive. And if the Syrians intervene in this fight, let them. On the contrary, such a Syrian step could be convenient for those who think that in the final analysis, there is no alternative to war with the Syrians. These people claim that in any case there is every chance that this will occur in the future on the initiative of the Syrians, and the terrorists will also not be able to keep quiet for any length of time; therefore it would be better for Israel to be the one to decide the most convenient date for the clash.

What is the Israeli interpretation of the cease-fire? It is a broad interpretation according to which the ban on hostile activities in fact includes any terrorism planned, financed and coordinated by the PLO command headquarters in Lebanon. This is how people here interpret the clause in the agreement that says that there will be no hostile activities on land, sea or in the air from Lebanon (against Israel or Maj Sa'd Haddad's area). Therefore, among the killed who had fallen from terrorist actions, the chief of staff not only counted Lt Eyal Tzur, who was killed by a mine in southern Lebanon, but also the Israeli diplomat Bar-Simantov who was murdered in Paris, Sergeant Major (Grossmark) who was killed when a handgrenade was thrown in Gaza and also the Druze policeman who was killed with a knife in Janin. In other words, according to the Israeli interpretation, all Palestinian terrorist actions should stop because they all originate in command headquarters in Lebanon.

The United States moved toward Israel on this matter. They have agreed that the infiltration of terrorist squads from the Jordanian border, squads who, according to all the signs, come from Lebanon via Syria, is a violation of the cease-fire. The same applies to the placing of the mine that caused Eyal Tzur's death in southern Lebanon. However, they have refrained from saying this about the murder of the Israeli diplomat in Paris or actions carried out by the inhabitants of the territories. Even if they wanted these actions to stop, the United States certainly understands that this is impossible to implement.

The PLO has taken a line opposite to that of Israel. It claims the cease-fire only applies to hostile actions from southern Lebanon. This is a most limited interpretation. At the same time that they claimed they had gained the victory in the round of battles in July when they shelled Israeli settlements, they poured into the area many scores of long-range artillery pieces. In this way they are telling us: We are not deterred from further artillery attacks against the Israeli settlements. The weakness of the terrorists' claim springs from the fact that if the cease-fire really does apply only to southern Lebanon and they are entitled to act in other areas, then Israel can also do so, and better. The IDF will act in northern Lebanon, within Beirut and against other PLO targets. This was one of the main factors when the targets for the air force planes' bombing were selected and approved; the three targets were north of Sidon and not in southern Lebanon.

It was then only a question of time until the government approved an air force action. The date decided upon was really coincidental, but it is impossible to say that events and other factors also had no influence on the decision. The air force action falling on just the same difficult day of the Yamit evacuation is accepted as an attempt to balance pressure at home. On the one hand, the government decides to complete the Sinai withdrawal and on the other it decides for the first time since the cease-fire to send air force planes to hit the terrorists -- an action carried out while half of the Sinai is still in our hands.

The straw that broke the camel's back was the incident in which the air force man lost his leg when during a hike, he stepped on a shoe mine laid near the Batir Springs in the Jerusalem area. After this incident, appeals were again made to the government and this time the action was approved. When Eyal Tzur's jeep hit a mine in southern Lebanon, it added fuel to the fire that had already been lit. It was not the firing of shoulder missiles at our aircraft that lit the fuse.

By the way, it is doubtful if such firing will be considered a violation of the cease-fire because it is not firing at Israeli territory, but an act of defense against aircraft that penetrated their territory. And, as for our patrol flights, these are not included in the cease-fire and this is also the understanding achieved on the matter with the United States although 'Arafat demanded a halt to the flights by virtue of the cease-fire. The firing of the missile in the Golan Heights is another affair. This is the first case of missile firing in the Golan Heights since the Yom Kippur War, and what is more, against a plane flying at a great altitude and, according to its pilot's evidence, in Israeli airspace. We will have to wait and see if this was really an isolated incident or a sign of Syrian polarization.

The government's desire to interpret the cease-fire to cover other hostile acts is understandable. But what is disturbing is the report -- and this is not all -- that it is not only a question of defending the northern and other settlements, and even not of the desire to see the terrorists' artillery pushed far out of range of the settlements and other targets in Galilee. Defense of the settlements in Galilee and even a war for their sake could be accepted in Israel. The question is whether there is anyone looking further, at Beirut and Juniyah, at influencing the choice of Lebanon's next president and busying himself with getting the Syrians out of Lebanon, together with hitting the terrorists' command headquarters and infrastructure.

If this is one of the next stages in the great plan, then we are playing with fire and we cannot be burned. The implementation of such a plan would require us to hit many civilian targets, it would involve appreciable time -- and even more time to sever the contact. In such a situation it cannot be assumed that we would not come to a confrontation with Washington and the undermining of our relations with Egypt, nor to mention our losses.

The claim that in any case there will be a war with the Syrians and it is nothing but a question of time until they open fire must not serve as a decisive factor. We have heard such sayings more than once in the past, both as regards Syria and Egypt. If it had been the decisive factor in the past, we would have gone to war every 3 or 4 years. We must remember, as we have seen more than once, that there are contradictory and surprising processes that often give lie to the thesis "war is unavoidable." And in any event, what we have been doing ever since the establishment of the state is delay a war, to gain time and guard our strength as a small nation. Why rush into a war on the assumption that perhaps it will break out in another year?

Israel took a step forward with the air force bombing. For the time being the Palestinians have refrained from reacting. If they continue to do so, there may be those who will claim that they are afraid of Israel's iron fist, but they will also gain, politically, from their self-control. However, as on every front, here too there are generals on both sides of the barricades, and so all that is left is to hope that here too they will know how to calculate the brink beyond which we must not go.

JANIN AREA RESIDENT WOUNDED BY IDF DURING RIOT

TA242115 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2105 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Janin, 24 Apr -- An inhabitant of the town of Qabatiyah in the Janin area was wounded in the leg today from shots fired by members of the border police force who tried to disperse rioters hurling molotov cocktails at them.

The ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria reports that the riots in Qabatiyah began as a resident of Haifa, Berta (Vikolnosky), drove her car though the main road in town and masked people tried to block her way with burning tires. She managed to bypass the barricade, but the rioters threw stones at her and broke the windshields. She informed the nearest border police station about the incident, and police then rushed to the scene and were also suddenly attacked with molotov cocktails. They shot in the air, but the demonstrators did not flee. Then they shot at their feet, and one person was hit in the leg. The rioters took the injured person with them and ran away.

Later security forces arrested the driver of a private car near Janin with four passengers, among them the injured person, called Muhammad Sa'id. The car's passengers were apprehended and the wounded man was rushed to the hospital in Janin. Disturbances also took place in Janin, the demonstrators were dispersed by force and 21 and them were detained. There were disruptions of the public order in Ramallah and Nabulus as well.

PRO-ZIONIST GOLAN DRUZE LIVES SAID ENDANGERED

TA220608 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Apr 82

[Text] Pro-Zionist Golan Heights Druze leader Salman Abu-Salah says the lives of the Druze who identify with Israel are in danger. He claims Druze who accepted Israeli identification cards have had their chil ren beaten up, their houses stoned and their car tires slashed. He told reporter Yo'el Dar there have been attempts to set fire to the homes of some Golan Heights Druze who returned to their work in the upper Galilee.

MINISTRY SAYS 300 GOLAN DRUZE RETURN ID CARDS

TA221258 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 22 Apr 82

[Text] The Ministry of the Interior said that apparently only 300 Druze in the Golan Heights will [as heard] personally give back the Israeli identity cards they received during the campaign at the beginning of April. At that time 4,400 such cards were issued and 800 of the inhabitants of the villages refused to receive them from the Interior Ministry and the IDF.

Our correspondent, Avshalom Ginosar, points out that after the campaign, scores of Druze went to the Ministry of the Interior branch in Mas'adah and requested cards, but they did this on the condition that the day of the campaign should be noted as the date they were issued, apparently so that their requests would not become publicly known. There are many heads of families who keep the entire family's identity cards and give them out to those who need them when this is necessary. The Ministry of the Interior staff say that it is only rarely that documents are destroyed and burned.

MOI ADDRESSES CLOSING SESSION OF OAU MEETING

EA231426 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi, who is the current chairman of the OAU, said today that the present problem facing the organization would be solved through meetings and discussions at the level of heads of state and government.

The president noted that the bureau of the 18th assembly of the OAU heads of state and government had agreed during their deliberations that the organization was confronted with problems, but that it was not the first time.

Speaking at the close of the 2-day meeting at Kenyatta International Conference Center, President Moi observed that there was no problem which was beyong rational solution. President Moi said the problems facing our continent are not insurmountable and that every method must be used to find solutions.

The president stated that the bureau agreed that the preservation and promotion of the African unity through the OAU and its organs was paramount. He expressed the hope that all member states will heed his appeal to attend all future OAU meetings.

Passing a vote of thanks, the president of Tanzania, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, commended President Moi for wisely conducting the meeting. President Nyerere pointed out that the OAU chairman had done everything possible to preserve the unity of the organization and should be given all assistance in this regard. The Tanzanian leader advised that we must work for the unity of Africa and guard against anything that may wreck it. President Nyerere said the OAU was the only organization of its kind which assisted African countries still under colonial rule in their liberation struggle.

The meeting, which opened in Nairobi yesterday, was also attended by the president of Uganda, Dr Apollo Milton Obote, and delegates from Congo, Gambia, Lesotho, Libya and Upper Volta.

Official Briefs Newsmen

EA231934 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1615 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] The assistant secretary general of the OAU, Dr Peter Onu, addressed a news conference today at the Kenyatta International Conference Center. Dr Peter Onu briefed reporters about the deliberations of the meeting on various issues discussed.

[Begin recording] The current chairman reported to his bureau the developments in Chad since the last meeting of the standing committee here in Nairobi. He informed them that the provisional or the Transitional Government in Chad, GUNT, had rejected a decision or the recommendations which were made by the standing committee regarding a political solution and an early election. Consequently, the resolutions of the standing committee have not been implemented by the Chad Government.

He also informed the bureau that a delegation comprising the chairman of the council of ministers, that's the foreign minister of Botswana, the foreign minister of Kenya and the Secretariat, went to Chad last month, I think, to obtain from the government a letter of consent to the request the current chairman made to the Security Council asking for financial assistance to the peacekeeping force. You will recall that the current chairman, as far back as December last year, made a request to the Security Council and the secretary general of the United Nations asking for assistance to the OAU force. But the Security Council could not deal with the matter without the written consent of the Chad Government. That letter has now been obtained and has been forwarded by the current chairman to the secretary general of the United Nations. Envoys of the current chairman will soon be leaving for New York to take up the matter with the Security Council.

The current chairman, President Daniel arap Moi, also read the situation report which was sent to him by the force commander in Chad, the force commander of the OAU force, General Ejiga. The picture militarily for the government has not been a bright one because on the battlefront GUNT forces are suffering defeats and in particular in an area called Ati where the Chad forces decided to share the same camp with the OAU forces. The force commander could not accept this and asked permission of the current chairman to redeploy his troops. As a result of the decision to redeploy the OAU force, I think from the report, GUNT relented and decided to move its forces to another area in Chad.

He was also informed that because of the rainy season and because of the need to provide adequate security for Ndjamena, the force commander has requested to move some of his forces to Ndjamena to strengthen the existing force there. There is the problem, a very serious problem of transportation in Chad, because of the rainy season. In short, the military picture which was painted by the force commander about the military situation looks rather somber.

But in any case the current chairman is still hoping that the Chadian Government will accept as early as possible a political solution to the conflict in that country. Meanwhile, he is doing everything possible to see to it that the OAU force in Ndjamena -- in Chad -- gets financial assistance from UN sources, because the assistance that is coming from a number of countries that are helping Chad is not enough. Well, that was the report on Chad.

President Nyerere was called upon by the chairman to brief the bureau on the question of Namibia. He said there has been very little progress on Namibia and he also said that some Western sources are saying that the position has changed and that it is now SWAPO which is intransigent. He says that this is absolutely wrong. He recounted all the problems relating to the system of election -- the first proposal that was made by the contact group, that was the combined system of voting, that's proportional representation and election to the constituent assembly.

South Africa, as you know, accepted this combined system. SWAPO rejected it because it was rather cumbersome and complicated and for the people of Nambia, the simple people of Namibia who were largely illiterate, this was a system which SWAPO thought would be very difficult to operate. It was even discovered that some members of the contact group found it difficult to understand how that system was going to work because the only country perhaps in the world that has applied this system is West Germany.

SWAPO instead opted for either proportional representation or single member constituency, but South Africa wanted a combination of both.

According to President Nyerere, what was surprising was that in view of the fact that SWAPO was prepared to accept either of the two systems which are used worldwide, that is proportional representation or single member constituency, the Western five found it very difficult to ask South Africa to change her position.

Coming to President Nyerere, the Western five have proposed another system, that is, the system of a single vote with two values. One vote, one single vote, will count toward the proportional representation and also toward the constituent assembly too. He cannot say whether SWAPO will accept this new proposal.

Communique Issued

EA231822 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1615 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Communique issued at conclusion of 22-23 April Nairobi meeting of bureau of 18th assembly of OAU heads of state and government]

[Text] 1. The bureau of the 18th assembly of heads of state and government meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, on 22 and 23 April 1982, reviewedthe problems currently facing the organization.

2. Having taken cognizance of the fact that in the history of the OAU the organization has faced a number of problems, the bureau concluded that the present problems are not unique.

3. The bureau is convinced that the OAU, which in the past has resolved problems and crises through consultations, discussions and meetings at summit level, can by these means overcome the present situation facing the organization and there can be no substitute for such meetings.

4. The bureau therefore urged all member states to strive to overcome their present differences. In this regard, the bureau recalled the decisions of the 18th ordinary session of the assembly of heads of states and governments in Nairobi, Kenya, and in particular the decision to convene the 19th ordinary session of the assembly of heads of states and governments in Tripoli, Libya. That summit will provide a forum for tackling these problems.

5. The bureau was informed that some member states had expressed the view that there should be an extraordinary session of the assembly. The bureau recalled that Article 9 of the charter of the organization provides the modalities for convening such a summit. Any member state of the OAU is free to invoke that article of the charter.

6. In the meantime, the bureau appealed to all member states of the OAU to ensure that all the organs of the OAU continue to function normally.

And lastly, the bureau paid tribute to the current chairman of the OAU for the efforts he has exerted to maintain the unity and solidarity of the organization and in this regard commended his initiative in convening the meeting of the bureau to exchange views on the affairs of the organization in the context of the present difficulties. The bureau felt that the exchanges have been constructive and useful.

Morocco Embassy: No Chance

NC241750 Paris AFP in English 1724 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Nairobi, 24 Apr (AFP) -- The next scheduled summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in Tripoli in August now has "no chance" of taking place, the Moroccan Embassy here said in a statement released after the inconclusive meeting of the OAU's bureau on the Western Sahara question.

The embassy statement said that before the bureau meeting the Tripoli summit had few chances of convening as long as questions of the admission of the "so-called SADR" [Saharan Arab Democratic Republic] and the interpretation of relevant OAU Charter clauses remained unanswered. "Following the bureau meeting it can be stated that these chances are now reduced to zero," the statement said, adding that Morocco "is more than ever convinced of the need for an emergency session of an special OAU summit...to allow the resumption of normal operation of pan-African institutions as soon as possible."

The bureau had taken pains to play down the size of a "split of which the OAU has never experienced the like," the statement charged.

## ALGERIA

### U.S. MILITARY AID TO MOROCCO CRITICIZED

LD242334 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] The U.S.-Moroccan military committee will hold its first meeting in Morocco the day after tomorrow, Monday. The U.S. delegation consists of 80 members, including two defense deputy secretaries and one deputy secretary of state in addition to 10 U.S. generals.

In this connection, APS writes: The United States, by its announcement about increasing military assistance to the Moroccan regime and on the forthcoming meeting of the joint military committee to be held the day after tomorrow, has revealed its increased involvement with the Rabat regime in its aggressive war against the Saharan people and has shown the extent of the strategic alliance between the Reagan administration and the Rabat regime. The fact is that the announcement on the increase in U.S. military assistance to Morocco is not surprising to observers following the progress of U.S. involvement in this area of the world, particularly since the new U.S. administration took office.

In the last year, Morocco has witnessed a flood of U.S. delegations and missions. Most of them have been military in character. These contacts were concluded with an announcement about the return of the U.S. military bases to Morocco within the framework of a strategy, the aim of which was to place the Arab world in a pincer -- Israel and Egypt in the east and the Rabat regime in the west of the Arab homeland.

A quick glance at the list of military equipment and weapons the United States intends to supply to Morocco confirms that these weapons are devoted to the war of extermination the Rabat regime is waging against the Saharan people and not to help a country facing external threats as the U.S. administration claims to justify this deal.

The composition of the U.S. delegation to the joint military committee meetings in itself indicates that the matter goes beyond the question of concluding an ordinary military transaction between two countries. This 80-man delegation, including two defense deputy secretaries, a deputy secretary of state and 10 generals, all prompts one to think that the two sides are on the way to establishing a close military alliance in readiness for new adventures to be embarked upon by Rabat in the area. It is clear that this vast flood of U.S. military aid to the Rabat regime which is sinking in the sand of the Sahara, will push this regime toward committing some foolish actions, the consequences of which no one can predict. This will encourage Morocco to continue its aggressive war against the Saharan people and will postpone the possibility of finding a just peaceful solution to the Sahara issue recognized by all the international and regional organizations.

It is worth pointing out here that the speeding up of the pace of U.S. support for the Moroccan regime comes after a series of military and diplomatic defeats suffered by this regime particularly in the African arena. The SDAR has become a full member of the OAU. The Rabat regime could not, despite an extensive compaign using the stick and carrot, force the organization to revoke its decision.

The alliance whose threads are being woven today in Fes actually is part of the security strategy for U.S. military bases in the area. The United States, which protects the aggressive policy of Israel by automatically using the veto at the Security Council, is the same United States that is hastening to create another policeman to serve imperialist interests in the western part of the Arab homeland. It is not surprising that the choice should fall on the Rabat regime. This regime has a long history of conspiring against Arab issues headed by the issue of the Palestinian Arab people.

It is no secret that this regime today is responsible to a large extent for the present state of division and disarray in the Arab world. It has been established beyond any shadow of a doubt that the Moroccan regime was the liaison in all stages of Egyptian-Israeli contacts and negotiations that led to Camp David. The testimonies of the heroes of these negotiations such as Hasan at-Tuhami, Moshe Dayan and others have become well known.

Wasn't it Hassan II who raised the slogan of intermarriage between the Zionist genius and the Arab money and who received publicly and in full view of all one of the fathers of the Zionist dogma, Nahum Goldman, president of the World Jewish Congress? What is so ridiculous is that this man is the chairman of the committee on the liberation of Jerusalem.

## LIBYA

### LEADERS MEET WITH PLO'S 'ARAFAT 24 APRIL

#### Al-Qadhdhafi Meeting

LD241414 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution today received Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The meeting was attended by Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, and Brother Abu Tariq, PLO representative in the jamahiriyah.

Brother Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Tripoli this morning on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

#### VOP Report

NC250805 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is continuing his official visit, started yesterday afternoon, to the Libyan Jamahiriyah in response to an invitation from Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The brother commander in chief met yesterday afternoon with the Libyan president. [as heard] The meeting was attended by Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad and the brother representative of the Palestine liberation organization in the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

During this meeting, a general review was made of the latest developments in the current situation in the area, particularly the recent Zionist air aggression against a number of Lebanese areas and the threats and military concentrations in southern Lebanon. They also discussed the escalating popular uprising of the masses of our people in the occupied homeland in the face of the Zionist military occupation, its aggressive projects and the unholy aggression against the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque. A number of issues of mutual concern also were discussed.

#### Jabir Reception

LD241928 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1908 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Apr (JANA) -- Brig Abu Bakir Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the armed forces, today received Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The meeting also was attended by Brother Abu Iyad, member of Fatah Central Committee, and by the PLO representative in the jamahiriyah.

'Arafat Departure

LD291932 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1903 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Apr (JANA) -- Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, left Tripoli this evening.

TALKS BEGIN WITH POLAND'S SIWICKI 21 APRIL

LD222238 Tripoli JANA in English 1411 GMT 22 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Apr (JANA) -- The Libyan-Polish joint talks have started in Tripoli last night headed by Brigadier Mustafa al-Kharrubi, general chief of staff of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, on the Libyan side and by General Florian Siwicki, member of the Military Council for National Salvation, deputy defence minister and chief of staff of the Polish Armed Forces.

At-Talhi Meeting

LD222234 Tripoli JANA in English 1633 GMT 22 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Apr (JANA) -- Mr. Jadallah 'Aziz at-Talhi, secretary of the general people's committee, this morning received General Florian Siwicki, member of the Polish Military Council for National Salvation, first deputy minister of defence and chief of staff of the Polish Armed Forces. They both discussed furthering relations and bilateral cooperation in various sectors.

Delegation's Departure

LD232326 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Gen Florian Siwicki, member of the Military Council of National Salvation, chief of staff of the Polish Armed Forces and deputy minister of national defense in the Polish People's Republic, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this evening after a several days visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The Polish guest and his delegation were seen off at Tripoli international airport by Brig Mustafa al-Kharrubi, chief of general staff, and a number of officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces.

MOROCCO

RETURN OF SINAI CITED AS EGYPT'S 'GREAT GAIN'

LD251514 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] The evacuation of the Israeli forces from the Sinai was completed today and the Egyptian flag was raised. The Egyptian people thus have achieved a great gain by recovering part of their land, the liberation of which cost great sacrifices. No doubt that ridding the Sinai Arab territory of Israeli occupation is in reality an important gain for the Egyptian people and the Arab nation and an important stage in the struggle for the liberation of the rest of the Arab territory, with Jerusalem at the forfront. The return of the Sinai to Arab sovereignty after 15 years of Israeli occupation is bound to be regarded as a great victory.

## CHAD

### MINISTER ASKS DEMILITARIZATION OF FACTIONS

AB241025 Paris AFP in French 0840 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Yaounde, 24 Apr (AFP) -- Any solution to the Chadian conflict will have to be achieved through the demilitarization of the political-military factions, including that of Hissein Habre's FAN, Michel Nganbet Kosnaye, Chadian minister of economy and finance, stated in Yaounde on Saturday.

In an interview with AFP, Ngangbet Kosnaye added that this demilitarization should be "brought to a successful end" by the OAU within the framework of its role of maintaining peace in Chad. "This will be Chad's main proposal for a solution to the Chadian problem during the extraordinary summit of all the OAU heads of state," for which the Chadian Government officially asked in Nairobi last Monday. Ngangbet Kosnaye said the Chadian Government will rule out any possibility of negotiating with Hissein Habre as this proposal is not effective. "Our second proposal, once demilitarization is obtained, will be to entrust the OAU with the organization of free elections in Chad," he added. The Chadian minister, from the south and close to President Goukouni Oueddei, also favored excluding faction leaders from the government. "Their presence has not allowed a solution to the Chadian problem in 2 years. Consequently, it is logical now to call on technocrats, on new men." Ngangbet Kosnaye rejected the idea of a coup d'etat against President Goukouni by one of the factions represented in the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], admitting that their division has never been so "strong." "Politicians, like the people, are tired of making war," he added. A coup d'etat automatically will lead to dividing Chad into two: south and north, Nganbet Kosnaye added. If a coup d'etat is carried out by southerners, it will lead to repression against them by the northerners or if it is carried out by a northern faction, the south will withdraw to the south, leaving the northerners to kill themselves," he added. The minister also acknowledged that President Goukouni is "becoming more and more isolated" within the government, especially over his refusal to dismiss Defense Minister Adoum Togoi, whose departure is demanded by all the ministers. According to Ngangbet Kosnaye, Togoi is considered by the government as "the one person responsible for the failure of the government troops in their military offensive against Hissein Habre's forces." "The exclusion of the defense minister finally will permit the setting up of the Chadian National Army," he stressed. The finance minister concluded by saying that Colonel Kamougue Wadal, vice president of the GUNT and leader of the Chadian Armed Forces, had "practically seceeded" by taking refuge in the south with his troops.

## GABON

### COOPERATION TALKS WITH ROMANIA BEGIN 22 APRIL

AB222046 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 22 Apr 82

[Text] The fifth session of the Gabon-Romania commission for cooperation opened this afternoon in Libreville. The ceremony, which was held at the Kounepana Intercontinental Hotel, was presided over by the minister of state in charge of commerce, Etienne Moussirou. In a speech, Moussirou welcomed the Romanian delegation and stressed the excellent relations between Gabon and Romania. He also expressed the desire to see that their ties of friendship are further strengthened. In his speech, Vasile Bulucea, Romanian minister of transport and telecommunication, stressed the need to develop commercial exchanges. Romania seeks especially to import from our country oil, manganese and timber. It must be noted that, in a 5-day period, experts of the two countries will examine trade exchanges, Romania's participation in the construction of the second section of the trans-Gabon railroad and a technical and cultural cooperation agreement.

ANGOLA

TONHA: IF RSA ADVANCES, CUBANS MAY FIGHT

AB231317 Paris AFP in English 1303 GMT 23 Apr 82

[By Marie Joannidis]

[Text] Luanda, April 23 (AFP) -- Angolan forces are strong enough to fight South African troops on their own for the time being, but if the South Africans advance too far inside the country the Cuban forces deployed here will help to defend the country, according to Angolan Defence Minister Pedro Maria Tonha "Pedale".

Colonel "Pedale", who still uses his nom-de-guerre, said that "we don't think it necessary yet for the Cubans to be in contact with them."

In an exclusive interview Col. Pedale said that since the most recent South African "invasion" in August and September last year, South African forces had retained control of a large part of southernmost Cunene Province, next to Namibia.

"When we try to supply the inhabitants they attempt to bring traffic to a stop," he said. "We know that there are several troop concentrations on the Namibian side of the frontier, and they have made strong thrusts with armour towards the provincial capital, Onjiva, 30 km (20 miles) from the frontier."

He added that South African aircraft had made a surprise attack just over two weeks ago on the Chibemba region of Huila Province, close to northern Cunene.

"They had already violated our airspace several times, and over three or four days penetrated up to 250 km (160 miles) inside Angola. We suspect they are preparing an operation like last year's."

Col. Pedale said that the part of Chibemba which had been raided contained an air defense zone and several military units, but it was also a densely-populated farming area which contained several refugee camps.

He said that Angolan troops were still based in Cahama, a town in north Cunene some 50 km (30 miles) from Chibemba, which was totally destroyed in South African bombing raids last year.

Despite South African Air Force operations, Angolan units were operating as far south as Xangongo, 100 km (60 miles) south of Cahama on the Cunene River, where South African forces were also operating. "Their aircraft attack around Xangongo every time trucks start moving," he said.

Col. Pedale stressed South African air superiority and said that Angola's Air Force was short of equipment and trained men and was used above all for supply missions.

"If the South Africans only used ground forces they would never advance, and would be pushed back," he said.

The minister said that Cuban forces and Soviet technicians were based in the south of the country. "We have to defend ourselves by all available means, and create the appropriate conditions for this," he said. Western sources estimate that there are between 15,000 and 17,000 Cubans in the country, both military and civilian. Col. Pedale said there were Cuban technicians in south-central Angola (Bie and Huambo) and a small unit in the northern enclave of Cabinda, where the American oil company Gulf Oil is operating, but none in the other parts of the north.

He refuted South African claims that the South-West Africa Peoples' Organization SWAPO had bases in Angola. "This movement has no military bases in Angola. There are refugee camps, transit camps for moving into Namibia where they are fighting. We have given hospitality to SWAPO, and the aid it receives from friendly countries passes through Angola. We have said on several occasions that we are entitled to aid this liberation movement because the Namibian people is fighting a just war."

Colonel Pedale described the UNITA opposition movement operation in the south part of the country as "bandits aided by the South Africans." UNITA's activities in Huila Province, reportedly its main area of operations, were usually "insignificant", he said. "The people of this province, like those of Cunene, have nothing to do with this movement."

In the Bie and Huambo regions, home country of UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi, the movement carried out "small ambushes, sabotage of the Benguela railway, laying mines." The movement received a lot of aid from the South Africans, he said.

AUTHORITIES DENY EXISTENCE OF BRITISH BASE

AB231819 Luanda ANGOP in French 1751 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Luanda, 23 Apr (ANGOP) -- Official circles in the Angolan capital categorically denied news circulating in London that bases exist in the People's Republic of Angola for reconnaissance planes reported near the British naval force heading for the Falkland archipelago.

This news, from a DAILY TELEGRAPH journalist traveling with the British naval force, immediately was picked up by well-known Western news agencies, trying to hint that the so-called aircraft were based in the outskirts of Luanda and thus involve Angola in a problem with which it is totally unconnected.

According to the official sources in Luanda, no foreign military base exists on this territory especially as the People's Republic of Angola, which scrupulously abides by the principles of nonalignment, belongs to no military bloc. Therefore, according to the Angolan authorities, allegations that there are bases on the outskirts of Luanda for this type of reconnaissance planes are nothing but pure fantasy on the part of a correspondent in search of cheap sensationalism.

FIVE SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR UNDERMINING SECURITY

AB231320 Luanda ANGOP in French 1130 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Benguela, 23 Apr (ANGOP) -- Five of our countrymen accused of undermining the internal security were sentenced to death on Thursday in Lobito, Benguela Province, by the revolutionary people's tribunal of Luanda.

The tribunal, in session since 12 April, also sentenced five more persons, including a Portuguese national, to 20 years in prison. The Portuguese citizen also had his two cars and his house confiscated. The cars were used to transport the conspirators and meetings were held at the house. Eight people were given prison terms of 16, 10, 6 and 4 years while others were acquitted. These people, charged with undermining state internal security, were tried for collaborating with Angola puppet gangs and with the racist South African regime. According to the presiding judge, this endangered the independence and sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola as shown by the occupation of part of Angola's territory by the South African Army and by the destructive actions against the national economy and acts of intimidation and terror against the defenseless population in the country carried out by the puppet group.

It should be noted that the accused were part of a network dismantled near the commune of Catumbela, from where they carried out their criminal actions.

DOS SANTOS GREETS BREZHNEV ON LENIN'S BIRTHDAY

AB241303 Luanda ANGOP in French 1045 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Luanda, 24 Apr (ANGOP) -- Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, on Friday sent a message to Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU and head of state of the USSR, on the occasion of the 112th anniversary of the birth of V.I. Lenin, prophet of the world proletariat.

In the message, the Angolan head of state praises the work of the man who became the leader of the world's first victorious proletarian revolution. These achievements, which are always stimulating and always present in the struggle of all peoples, lead toward a more just society in the world, the socialist society, an example for all forms of colonialism and oppression.

At this moment when international imperialism increases its aggressiveness by attempting to create new areas of tension in the world that are aimed at ending the struggle of the communist movement, the international working masses, the national liberation movements and the peace and freedom-loving people, we reaffirm our unflinching solidarity with all forces fighting for socialism, peace and the progress of humanity, the president's message stated.

To conclude, the Angolan head of state, in the name of the Angolan people and its party, wished the CPSU and all Soviet people much success in building a socialist society and the material and technical bases of communism.

## NAMIBIA

RECENT SWAPO ATTACK 'FAILED COMPLETELY'

LD260936 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] The administrator general of the South-West Africa/Namibia, Mr Daniel Hough, says SWAPO's latest onslaught against the people of the territory has failed completely. Mr Hough said in a radio interview that SWAPO's latest activities in the vicinity of Tsumeb in the north of the territory had raised the question of why the organization found it necessary to continue the negotiations for a settlement.

Earlier the South African minister of defense, Gen Magnus Malan, said it was necessary that the world should take note of what the terrorists were trying to achieve with their operations in South-West Africa/Namibia. He said SWAPO could hardly be serious about settlement negotiations if suicide operations were conducted at a time when sensitive talks were taking place.

The director of the Institute for Strategic Studies at the University of Pretoria, Dr Mike Hough, said the Soviet Union had apparently exerted considerable pressure on SWAPO to undertake an incursion into South-West Africa/Namibia.

SECURITY FORCES KILL 33 'INSURGENTS' IN 2 WEEKS

AB241035 Paris AFP in English 0957 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Windhoek, Apr 24 (AFP) -- South African security Forces in Namibia today reported to have shot and killed three SWAPO insurgents in the past 24 hours. This brings to 33 the number of insurgents of the South-West Africa/People's Organization killed during the past two weeks.

The insurgents were reportedly part of a SWAPO contingent which last week infiltrated traditionally "white" farm districts in northern Namibia.

The security forces said that they tracked down and killed two infiltrators northeast of Ushivelo, Ovambo. Tracks found 10 km (six miles) southeast of Oshivelo indicated that the insurgents were on their way to the Tsumeb district, the forces said at their headquarters here. A third insurgent was shot and killed on Wandelberg farm, 28 km (17 miles) west of Tsumeb. Follow-up operations in the area were continuing, the forces said.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### COMMENTARY: SWAPO BLOCKS NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

LD231210 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Excerpts] We comment on SWAPO's latest terrorist acts: The South-West Africa/Namibian negotiations for a negotiated settlement in the territory have been brought to a halt by SWAPO which refuses to accept proposals for a one-man, two-vote system for the envisaged United Nations supervised elections. South Africa has accepted proposals that the constituent assembly to be elected would consist half of constituency representatives and the other half of members chosen by proportional representation. But, while involved in negotiations, SWAPO continues with violence to try to achieve through terror that which eludes it in negotiations. Operating from Angola, SWAPO's bands have succeeded in crossing the border into the northern areas of South-West Africa/Namibia. The mission was to kill and maim people and destroy property. They are well armed with Soviet-made weapons, SAM-7 missiles, numerous antivehicle and antipersonnel landmines, RPG-7 rocket launchers and mortars.

SWAPO through the Angolan news agency ANGOP, has now claimed that it has killed a large number of the security forces, a claim that has been described as far-fetched by a spokesman for the force as it is common knowledge that the South African Defense Force declares all its losses. But what SWAPO has said underlines the organization's terrorist actions. SWAPO claims that among those killed was what it terms a rich white farmer. On the day of its claims (?has) come a report from Washington that in recent years SWAPO has been involved in 969 terrorist attacks in which 227 people have been killed, 385 abducted and 227 seriously injured. Its latest claims only underline the movement's terrorist inclinations and its seeking of publicity for its actions.

## ZIMBABWE

### ARMS CACHES FOUND; THREE 'BASES' DESTROYED

LD251542 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Security forces in Zimbabwe are reported to have found more secret arms caches, this time at Mashumbi Pools in the north of the country. The minister responsible for security in Zimbabwe, Mr Emmerson Nunangagwe, says that in addition to the arms finds three bases of supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo have been destroyed. The bases were all in Matabeleland, the area from where Mr Nkomo draws most of his support. Mr Munangagwe says that several rebels were killed in raids on the bases. A number of arrests were also made.

### RETENTION OF DPRK INSTRUCTORS UNDER REVIEW

NC162030 Paris AFP in English 2018 GMT 16 Apr 82

[By Jean-Michel Stoullig]

[Text] Salisbury, 16 Apr (AFP) -- The authorities here are reviewing [words indistinct] retain the 100 or so North Korean instructors stationed in eastern Zimbabwe since the middle of last year with the Army's Fifth Brigade, according to reliable sources here.

The brigade is seen by its opponents -- including black minority leader Joshua Nkomo and many whites -- as a private guard in the personal service of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. The sources said that whatever the decision of the Korean instructors, the brigade could well be transferred to Gwelo, in the centre of the country.

This autonomous brigade was set up after Mr Mugabe visited Pyongyang in October 1980, and North Korea offered to pay for military training for almost 5,000 men from among the large numbers of former guerrilla irregulars of the seven-year independence war. The Fifth Brigade, which was provisionally deployed in the Inyanga mountains, near the border with Mozambique, was cutoff from the rest of the Zimbabwean Army (which still has about 100 British instructors) and has been shrouded in mystery. Journalists are kept away.

Mr Mugabe's decision on the issue will have domestic political implications, observers here believe.

A redeployment in Gwelo, about 250 kms (150 miles) south of Salisbury, would fit in with defense requirements by improving the geographical distribution of military regions. The first four brigades are based on Bulawayo (South-west), Salisbury (north), Umtali [word indistinct] with the Fifth Brigade and Fort Victoria (south, but covering much of the centre of the country as well).

The government might also want to better integrate the newest brigade, with its different communications and power structures, into the otherwise western-trained and equipped army.

People who objected to the formation of the additional brigade believe that it might be used in the event of troubles in Bulawayo, or other parts of Matabeleland, the home area of the minority Ndebele people, who generally support Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front (PF).

[Words indistinct] Security Minister Emmerson Munangagwe denied that the Fifth Brigade was in the exclusive service of Mr Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) or that it would be used to help impose a one-party system on the country.

To their offer to train the brigade, the Koreans added a great of 16 million U.S. dollars to equip it. The equipment -- which reportedly includes artillery and a dozen Soviet-built T-55 tanks -- will remain in Zimbabwe whatever happens. According to some sources, the authorities here are worried by the high cost of the operation, since they pay the instructors' salaries and have to bear the cost of bringing supplies in from the Mozambican port of Beira -- an item not included in the original agreement.

However, with regard to the quality of the training, other experts note that once the language problem is overcome and the recruits have adjusted to the different military traditions in eastern socialist states, the brigade has the advantage of being located in a single camp and of having a relatively high number of instructors. Moreover, it might be in Mr Mugabe's interest in diplomatic terms to retain a North Korean presence in order to demonstrate Zimbabwe's non-alignment, since the four other brigades are being trained by Britain. North Korea, which has previously sent training teams to other African states, carefully balances its relations with both Moscow and Beijing and cannot be regarded as being a bridgehead of the Soviet bloc here. The North Koreans provided aid to the nationalists during and after the war, and observers here note that diplomatic contacts between the two capitals have been frequent over the past few months.

President Canaan Banana is currently in Pyongyang for President Kim Il-song's 70th birthday, and his departure on Tuesday was given considerable coverage in the local press. The North Koreans are also involved in several civilian projects in Zimbabwe, including a giant monument to the "heros of independence." Nevertheless, even though the North Koreans have still to finish their training work, they are not irreplaceable and there are other non-aligned countries who know how to train on Soviet equipment.